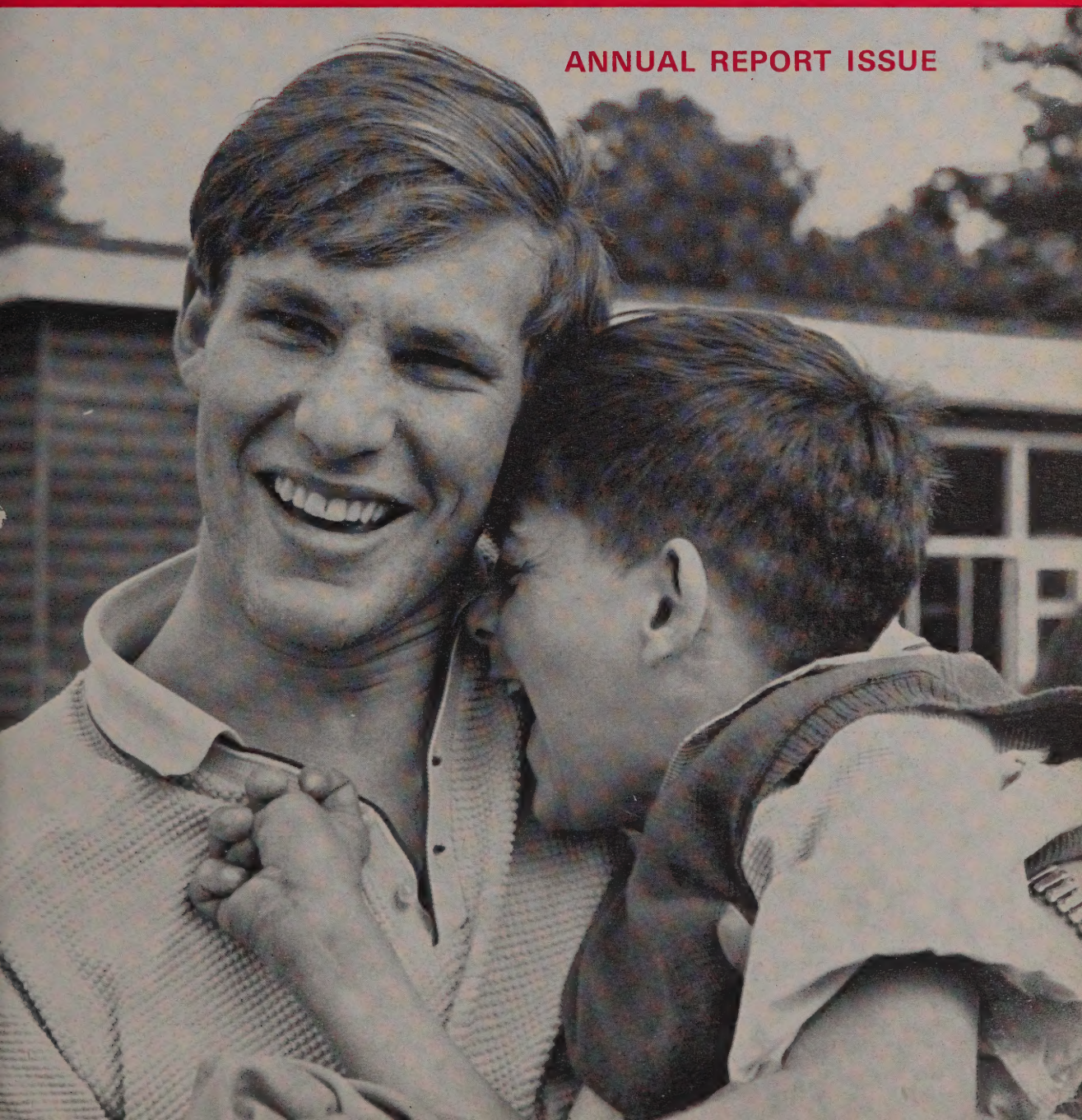


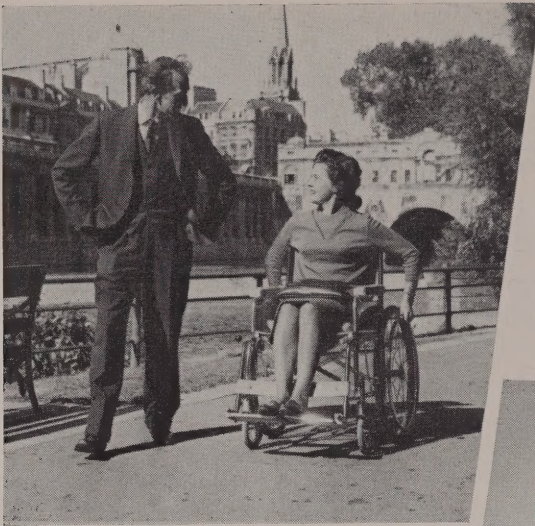
SPASTICS NEWS

OCTOBER 1965 PRICE 6d THE MAGAZINE OF THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT ISSUE



an
all-purpose
transit chair



that
weighs
only
36 lb.



- standard model includes*
- adjustable footrests easily removed and replaced
 - specially designed detachable padded armrests available in alternative arm heights (at no extra cost) are also reversible for simple fitting of tray

- mechanism designed with easy folding of chair in mind
- 24in. wheels with cushion tyres 8in. castors—excellent manoeuvrability
- lightweight steel and aluminium tubing for total chair weight of only 36 pounds
- chromium plated finish for easy cleaning

The VESSA is a robust, all-purpose transit chair, designed to give a new degree of mobility with reduced effort. Its low weight—36 pounds—low cost—£37/18/6—and adaptability make it an excellent choice for home and outdoor use.

THE **VESSA** FOLDING WHEELCHAIR

opens up new avenues of comfort and convenience for the disabled

Write for further details to

VESSA LTD

PAPER MILL LANE, ALTON, HANTS.

Tel. Alton 2294

and at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, London, S.W.15.

A member of the VOKES Group

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

THE EDITOR, 'SPASTICS NEWS'
12 PARK CRESCENT,
LONDON, W.1

Please send me SPASTICS NEWS until
further notice at the annual subscrip-
tion rate of 11s., including postage
(Published monthly).

NAME (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address



PLEASE CUT OUT

SPASTICS NEWS

The magazine of the Spastics Society

October 1965, Vol. XI, No. X, Price Sixpence. Editor: Eve Renshaw

IN THIS ISSUE

Front Cover Picture: Police Cadet Ian Aldridge, 18, gives a helping hand to Tony Taylor, 15, a spastic at the Winged Fellowship Holiday Centre at Chigwell, Essex.
(Photograph: Courtesy Sunday Citizen)

NEWS IN BRIEF 2

FROM THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL REPORT:

The Chairman's Statement 4
How the Society has Expanded 6
National Residential Schools and Centres 7
Schools Affiliated to the Spastics Society 20
Looking Ahead 21
Social Services, Careers Advice and
Employment 22
Psychology and Spastics 25
Improved Local Facilities 26
Mobile Exhibition Unit 29
Groups and Regions 30
Some Royal Occasions 32

Paediatric Research Unit 34
Medical Advisory Committee 35
Department of Child Development 36
Educational Advisory Committee 37
Christmas Card Sales 38
Stars' Organisation for Spastics 40

NEWS IN BRIEF:

Employment News 43
Gimmicks 44
Letters to the Editor 45

Back Cover Picture: A spastic boy from the South East London Group enjoys a boat outing to Southend and Margate provided by the boys of Brownhill Road Social Club, who have also bought the Group a 16 mm. film projector.

(Photograph: Courtesy Lewisham Journal)

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

12 Park Crescent, London, W.1

President

H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, K.G., K.T.

Royal Patron

H.R.H. Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent

Officers

Director: Dr. C. P. Stevens, M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B.

Assistant Directors:

J. A. Loring (*Services to Spastics*)

J. E. Price, A.C.A. (*Finance*)

P. Haigh, M.C. (*Appeals & Information*)

Secretary: R. C. E. Cumplen

The Executive Committee

Chairman: Dr. D. E. Wheeler, C.B.E., B.Sc.,
Ph.D., F.R.I.C.

Vice-Chairman: J. F. G. Emms

Vice-Chairman: A. P. Moira

Hon. Treasurer: W. A. Burn, F.C.A.

J. E. O. Arnold, F.C.A.

D. C. Edginton

Miss J. Garwood, B.A.

Dr. Sylvia Guthrie

W. G. Jehan, M.B.E.

R. A. Jupp, A.M.I.Mech.E.

H. W. Palmer, B.Com.

J. L. Peterson, M.A.

Magnificent Gift

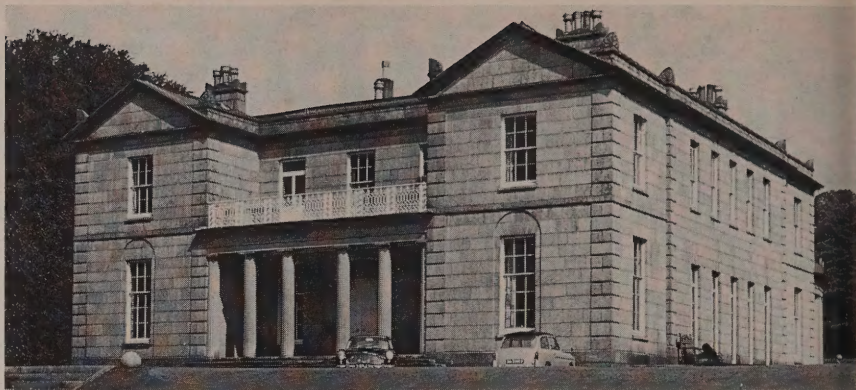
A 150-YEARS-OLD Georgian mansion of 20 rooms standing in several acres of beautiful grounds at Camborne, in Cornwall, has been given to the Spastics Society to be used as a residential home for spastics with preference being given to Cornish spastics.

The gift has been made by Mr. J. F. Holman, Chairman of Holman Bros. Ltd., of Camborne, the world renowned mining equipment manufacturers, and at the moment the house, known as Roswarne, Camborne, is the head office of the company.

Announcing the gift on August 12, the Patron of the Cornish Spastics Society, Sir John Carew Pole, and the Chairman, Mr. Philip Varcoe said, 'We feel this munificent gift will be of inestimable value to Cornish spastics. The house is superbly situated for such a residential home; secluded and yet near to the centre of a busy town providing amenities for those spastics able to get around and making visiting by relatives comparatively easy.

'The Cornish Spastics Society is a young organisation and this generous gift has brought to fruition many years ahead of schedule some of the Society's aims. We estimate that there are 300 spastics of all ages in Cornwall and probably the most haunting fear of their parents is who will look after their children when they are gone. This truly magnificent gift will lift the worry from their minds.

'We cannot over-stress the importance of this gift to the welfare of Cornish spastics and on behalf of the Society, and the spastics themselves, we would express heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Holman.'



When Mr. Holman and his family moved from London to Cornwall in 1951, they decided to live in a smaller house by the sea at St. Ives rather than at Roswarne which had been the family home for some 50 years. At that time, because the house was equidistant from the four or five plants the company were operating in the Camborne area, it was decided to use it as a head office.

But now the company are building a new administration block at their centralised works area and by the end of the year will no longer require Roswarne.

'I was faced with the problem of what to do with the house', said Mr. Holman. 'Because of its unique situation, being so close to the centre of the town and yet relatively secluded, there were several uses to which it could have been put—as a school, a hotel or local government offices.

'But because the house has been the family home for several generations I considered that, if possible, it should continue to have a

family association of some kind rather than become an impersonal institution.

'I therefore decided to give the house and the garden to a charity, preferably one which was particularly significant as far as Cornwall was concerned. I examined a number of possibilities and decided on the Spastics Society.

Mr. Holman said the Society would take over Roswarne around the beginning of next year and it was hoped that eventually it would accommodate 50 people.

'The home will be known as The Gladys Holman Home for Spastics after my late mother who devoted a great deal of her time to hospital work in the district, and to the Red Cross', said Mr. Holman.

'I believe I have put Roswarne House to the best possible use for the future. On the one hand it will be playing a much-needed charitable role and, on the other hand, will be contributing to the well-being of Camborne.'

G. E. Griffin.



THIRTY-NINE members of Cardiff '62 Club, together with 23 helpers, the majority of whom are students in Cardiff and who help week by week at the Club, flew off not long

ago from Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport for a week's holiday near Ostend in Belgium.

Cambrian Airways told the Cardiff Group, who organised the holiday, that the net cost

Cardiff '62 Club Holiday in Ostend

(Photograph: Courtesy Western Mail)

to them of sending a 63 seats Viscount Air liner to Ostend and back twice was £400 and they agreed on this occasion to charge the Group only 50 per cent of the actual cost i.e. £203.

Our photograph shows a group of ambulant spastics plus some of the helpers at the front of the 'plane including the Group Chairman, Councillor Mrs. M. S. Jacobs (in a short white coat) shaking hands and saying good-bye to John Northam, one of the Club members, just prior to them boarding the 'plane. Our Regional Officer, Mr. Kingsley Davies, is sixth from the right.

Spastics Unit Opened at Whitton School

THE MAYOR OF IPSWICH, Ald. Victor Francis, officially opened the new Spastic Unit at Whitton Special School recently. Our photograph shows (left to right) Mr. R. A. Jupp (Chairman of the Ipswich and East Suffolk Spastics Society); Ald. R. J. Lewis (Vice-Chairman of the Ipswich Education Committee); the Mayoress (Mrs. Francis); the Mayor; Ald. Mrs. L. Lewis (President of the Ipswich Society) and Mr. J. A. Loring, Assistant Director of the Spastics Society.

Whitton Open Air School for physically handicapped and delicate children was



founded by the Ipswich City Borough Council. The Spastics Society, in conjunction with the Ipswich and East Suffolk Branch, made a grant of £9,000, which meets the whole capital cost of developing a small extension to provide places for spastic children.

This is one of the first occasions when the Spastics Society has given a grant to a Local Authority to extend a Local Authority development. The capital sum is an outright gift, and the Ipswich County Borough Council will meet the running costs of the unit.



Bill Weston receives his prize. Bill has left Sherrards and has a job as a machinist at Harbott Ltd. in his home town of Leicester

AT SHERRARDS TRAINING CENTRE on Friday, July 23, the staff, trainees and friends of Sherrards gathered under the chairmanship of the Principal, Mr. V. King, for the presentation by Lady Bowes Lyon (Chairman of Sherrards Management Committee) of the Peter Richardson Awards.

The evening opened with a short report by the Principal on the year's work. This was followed by Mr. Jones, the Training Manager, outlining the method used by his department in assessing the awards.

Awards results were:

Vocational 1 **June Hockney**
2 **Bill Weston**

Social 1 **John Moss**
2 **John Taylor**
Educational 1 **Rosemary Yearley**
2 **James Mullen**

Lady Bowes Lyon also presented the swimming certificates for the year to the following trainees:

25 yards—
M. Hills, M. Stafford, A. Wharton, S. Fisher, R. Pearson, B. Dawson, R. Yearley, F. Hazlehurst.
35 yards and 100 yards—
J. Woodcock, M. Downing.
25 yards, 100 yards, 440 yards—
J. Gower, J. Taylor, S. Galley.

Sherrards

Annual Presentation of Peter Richardson Memorial Awards to Spastic Trainees

25 yards, 100 yards, 440 yards, 880 yards, and Bronze Medal for personal survival issued by Amateur Swimming Association:
David Bartlett.

A Silver medal was presented to **David Page**, a member of the Hatfield Youth Club, for the fastest walking time over checked points in a six-mile walk, organised by Herts. Association of Boys' Clubs.

The guests present included Miss Craig, donor of the Peter Richardson Awards, Mr. Richardson and daughter (father and sister of Peter Richardson) and Mr. and Mrs. Burrington, President of the Welwyn Garden City & District Group of the Spastics Society.

L. Sharp, Assistant Warden.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The occasion of the Annual Report provides an opportunity for the Society to stand back from its day-to-day problems, review the year's events and examine future prospects. It is always comforting to reflect upon what has been achieved for we all need encouragement and the Society is no different in this respect from any other group of people. But, like others, it must also avoid the dangers of complacency and it is in this sense, and in this spirit, that we should look ahead.

The Society generates a number of its future problems by its past successes. The help that came to spastics as an unexpected blessing in the early days of the Society soon came to be regarded as a necessity if not a right, and from this sprung very understandably the eagerness to extend the help and the practical services which grew from those early pioneering efforts of 15 to 20 years ago.

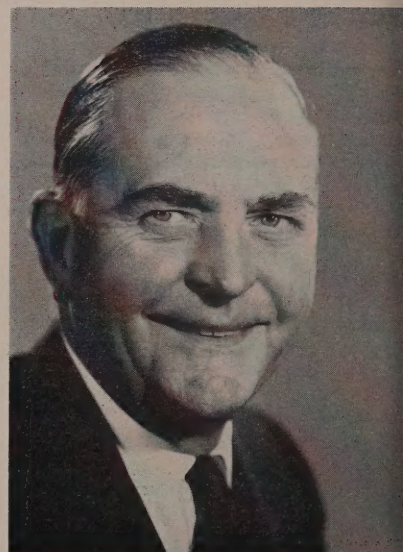
What then are the future needs as we see them now? Perhaps first should still come the provision of adequate help to all spastic children in this country according to their needs. Next, the wider and more extensive provision of help and relief for adult spastics on a continuing basis so that the whole family, as well as the individual spastic, can benefit. Then, I think, comes the extension of our knowledge about cerebral palsy in the hope that from this will emerge ultimately the prospect of reducing its incidence, or at least ameliorating its effects to a far greater extent than we can now visualise.

When we talk and think in terms of appropriate but adequate help to all spastics we must not look upon this as something that we must tackle unaided. It is clearly beyond the means or the competence of a charitable body to do this on an increasing scale and on a permanent basis, nor would any attempt to treat it in this way be other than a disservice

to spastics. The Society must pioneer, because a charitable organisation always has the freedom and flexibility that Government lacks, and so can experiment, thereby making mistakes but learning in the process. It is in this way that we add to experience more quickly than is possible by the more conservative approach that Government must tend to adopt.

The Society has always understood the need to work closely with Government and with Local Authorities. Indeed the staff at Headquarters, as well as in the Groups, maintains close links with those whose responsibilities in public service involve the care of the handicapped. But I think that we have reached a stage now when we must greatly extend these mutual interests and responsibilities and try to bring about a much more direct involvement of Government in all that still needs to be done. By this means the work well begun can be carried forward more quickly, but even more important will be the release thereby of part of the Society's energy and resources for the newer services that we want to see grow much faster. The Family Help Units typify one such service.

Many people ask from time to time: 'What is the Society going to do for my spastic child after he or she has left the special school or centre?' We cannot, of course, do everything but we have been providing on an increasing scale training units and sheltered workshops as well as arranging for the placing of the more lightly handicapped in suitable general work in industry. There are, too, the home crafts, and behind all this lies the expert advice and guidance which the trained, experienced and dedicated staff is always available to provide. Perhaps the most compelling need, and one that stands out sharply, is the provision of more homes and centres



for the very severely handicapped. We have extended this type of facility as fast as we have felt able but the difficulty here lies, not only in the provision of buildings, but in the finding and training of staff. The Society's own training establishment, expressly set up for this purpose and to be opened later this year, should ease our problems in this respect although it will not eliminate them. There is an acute shortage throughout the entire country of nurses, physiotherapists, speech therapists, as well as of medical auxiliaries of all grades, and this is a tremendous handicap. How often do we read, for instance, of a hospital having to close down entire floors through a shortage of just these very skilled people. Unless effective steps are taken by the authorities to ease these shortages then our work and that of all comparable organisations must be severely prejudiced.

It would be difficult, in my opinion, to over-emphasise the importance of the research which is now being conducted under the Society's sponsorship into the medical and educational problems of cerebral palsy. It is certainly true that we are spending large

sums of money on this work, but this is characteristic of all research. Results are always costly to secure and usually long delayed, but the benefits of a fundamental breakthrough in basic knowledge can be immense. The modern pharmaceutical industry dates back no further than the early 1940's following Ehrlich's discovery of a relationship between chemical configuration and bacteriostatic properties. The impetus and the incentive that this gave to research in the field of chemotherapy has yielded the immense armamentarium of drugs now available to the doctor: today 75 per cent of the prescriptions written could not have been issued 20 years ago simply because the drugs had not then been discovered. In the next ten years we may see equally remarkable progress in the prevention and treatment of cerebral palsy, and this is why the Executive remains convinced that our research should be maintained and, if possible, increased. In the educational field the results may appear to be less spectacular but their practical benefit can be just as important and it will remain our prime task to see that the knowledge gained is applied rapidly and widely. Indeed we see as one of our immediate problems the development of a more effective technique for translating new knowledge and experiences into practical measures that can be applied in all our homes and schools and centres.

During the last twelve months we have reviewed very carefully indeed the Society's funding policy, and have been greatly helped in this by the views of the Consultative Council. Before I deal with this I would like to comment on the work of the Council itself. The Earl of Westmorland had reluctantly to give up the chairmanship as his official duties and other commitments made his regular attendance impossible. I am happy to say that he has agreed to remain a Council member, and the Society will wish to join with me in thanking him for his help and encouragement. Dr. Colin Cooke, Fellow and Senior Bursar of Magdalene College, Oxford, has been appointed as Chairman in succession to Lord Westmorland. The Executive Committee has continued to put all major matters of policy to the Consultative Council for discussion and the opinions expressed have been of great help when the final decisions, as our constitution requires, have had to be taken by the Executive.

The Council and the Executive both concluded that it was right to create and maintain a capital fund from which, by prudent investment, an assured income would be

available to the Society. Ideally such an income should be large enough to maintain the establishments already created, at least in so far as the expenses are not met from Government or Local Authority sources. This is not the position today but we decided after careful deliberation that we must at the present time give some preference to capital investment in the creating of new units and the extension of existing establishments. We shall continue to review this at frequent intervals for we recognise that we must resume some measure of funding as quickly as possible. To anyone who has been concerned with the raising of monies for charitable purposes it will be apparent that contributions for capital expenditure or tangible assets are more easily secured than funds to yield an income for revenue expenses. Hence the charity itself must do its utmost to provide the monies for its revenue account for any inability to maintain existing establishments through lack of funds would give rise to such difficulties that all future work would be severely jeopardised if not permanently harmed.

Perhaps for too long, a large section of the membership has tended to regard the Society's income as unassailable. This year we have already seen its vulnerability exposed for the accounts reveal that we suffered a small decrease from £3,384,000 in the previous year to £3,298,000. This diminution is admittedly small, but seen against the rising trend of earlier years it is more ominous than the figures suggest. The reason for the fall was a setback in the fortunes of the Friends of Spastics League arising from the Finance Act of 1964, which created a tax liability that, as I write, has yet to be settled. During the year great efforts were made to increase our income from other sources and several imaginative and promising proposals were put forward by the Appeals Committee but could not be sustained on detailed planning and investigation. These efforts are continuing, for we realise their great importance, but it would be wrong of me to hold out any real hope of finding a new source of income that can compare with that derived from the Friends of Spastics League. During its existence some £10,000,000 has been provided for spastics from this one source and has made most of the Society's work possible. Our indebtedness to all concerned, especially to Mr. Van Neste and his colleagues, cannot be overestimated.

The Society's expenditures increased during the year as the direct result of the extension of services provided for spastics. The running costs of national schools and centres rose by

£172,000 compared with last year and is a comparable increase to that recorded in last year's accounts. Most of this increase was due to the greater number of places provided by new additions or extensions to the Society's schools and centres and not to rising costs, although these added to the sum.

The amount set aside for research increased over last year by £60,000, reflecting the first full year's cost of the grant to the University of London for the Department of Child Development in the Institute of Education. A total of £1,320,000 has now been allocated for medical and educational research over the last five years.

Grants to Groups went up by £34,000 and amounted in all this year to £294,000. I attach great importance to the continued support of local services to spastics and we are all anxious to foster their expansion.

The expenditure on Central Services went up by £52,000, of which the major part relates to the expansion of welfare and employment services. Altogether our expenditure on Central Services amounts to £300,000.

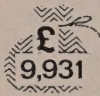



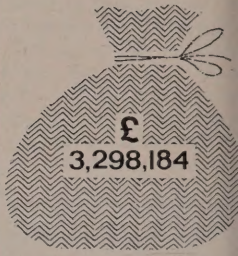

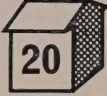
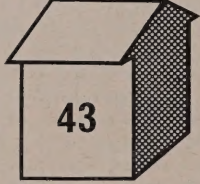
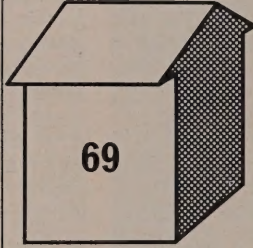
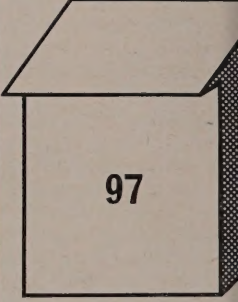


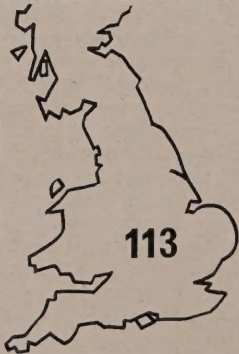
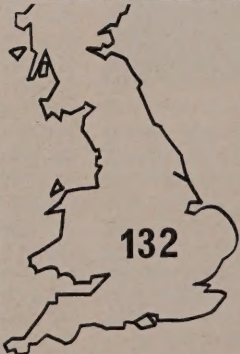
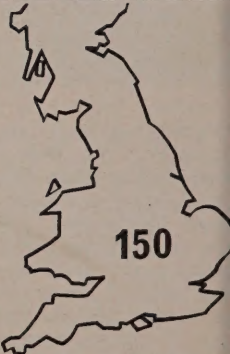



The Balance Sheet itself shows a record increase this year of £1,200,000 on buildings and equipment, which is almost double the figure of two years ago. This clearly indicates the rapid rise in the rate of expenditure on new schools and centres and will, of course, generate new revenue charges which will be reflected in next year's accounts. At the date of the Balance Sheet the Society's commitments on buildings and equipment amounted to £838,000 and this, coupled with the year under review, shows clearly the extent of our building programme. The notes on the accounts explain that the larger local centres, which are in the ownership of the Society but are leased to local Groups at peppercorn rents, are not included in the Balance Sheet. They are treated in this way because their contingent value to the Society is deemed to be remote. The actual cost to the Society of these properties amounted to some £354,000 at April 5, 1965.

The Executive Committee joins with me in recording once again, not as a duty but in real gratitude, our appreciation of all the help that we have received throughout the year from members, and especially from the Director and his staff at Park Crescent and throughout the country.

The unfailing interest of the President, and of our Royal Patron, continue to be a very great inspiration to us all for which we are deeply grateful.

Dennis E. Wheeler.

HOW THE SOCIETY HAS EXPANDED

1953	1956	1959	1962	1965
Income				
 <p>£9,931</p>	 <p>£391,385</p>	 <p>£881,219</p>	 <p>£2,311,589</p>	 <p>£3,298,184</p>
School & Centres				
 <p>1</p>	 <p>20</p>	 <p>43</p>	 <p>69</p>	 <p>97</p>
Affiliated Local Societies				
 <p>70</p>	 <p>109</p>	 <p>113</p>	 <p>132</p>	 <p>150</p>
Spastics Placed in Open Employment				
		<p>50</p> 	<p>300</p> 	<p>1000</p> 

THE THOMAS DELARUE SCHOOL

Recognised by the Department of Education and Science).

Starvecrow, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, Kent.
Telephone: Tonbridge 4584.)

Headmaster: D. C. Tudor, M.A. (Oxon).

Chairman of Board of Governors:

Douglas Delarue, J.P.

This purpose-built school, recognised since 1958, three years after its establishment, was officially opened by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh in June, 1964. Today 82 young pupils are enrolled at the Thomas Delarue School.

It is a residential bilateral secondary school with grammar and secondary modern streams. The grammar school curriculum leads to the G.C.E. examination at Ordinary and Advanced levels. Pupils also sit for the examinations of the Institute of Linguists. Pupils taking commercial courses are entitled to sit for the Royal Society of Arts examinations. The broadly based curriculum places particular emphasis on communication and development of the imagination. All pupils are trained in housecraft, wood and metal work, art and crafts. A full programme of physical and social education aims to fit pupils for as full a life as possible.



National Residential Schools and Centres

THE CRAIG-Y-PARC SCHOOL

Recognised by the Department of Education and Science).

Pentyrch, nr. Cardiff.

Telephone: Pentyrch 397.)

Headmistress: Mrs. C. M. Kearslake.

Chairman of the Management Committee:

Miss M. B. Jowett, M.B.E.

The opening of new extensions at Craig-y-Parc by Princess Marina this year has enabled the school to enlarge the scope of its curriculum.

Three more classrooms have meant a further development of the school's domestic science and woodwork programme for pupils of the secondary school age bracket. Other extensions include an assembly hall, swimming pool and new facilities for speech therapy and physiotherapy.

Craig-y-Parc, established in 1955, and recognised as efficient four years later, provides education and training for 50 resident children of average intelligence. Ages range from 5 to 16 years.

The school has always played a leading part in the Society's programme to train staff and also to develop parents' 'know-how' in the care of their children.





THE WILFRED PICKLES SCHOOL

(Recognised by the Department of Education and Science).

Tixover Grange, Duddington, nr. Stamford, Lincs.

(Telephone: Duddington 212.)

Headmaster: R. A. Pedder.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
Eric Smith.

Established in 1955 and recognised as efficient in 1959, this school provides primary and secondary education for 62 boarding and eight day pupils between 5 and 16 years of age with average intelligence.

A special feature of this school is the Partially Hearing Unit, specially equipped and staffed to train children so handicapped.

Able pupils pass to the Thomas Delarue School from here. Arrangements are being made for children to take part in the Certificate of Secondary Education examination programme.

Swimming, riding and participation in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme are some of the activities that highlight the programme of the school's extra-mural club, which is run by the pupils themselves supported where asked by members of staff.

National Reside



IRTON HALL SCHOOL

(Recognised by the Department of Education and Science.)

Holmrook, Cumberland.

Additions now in progress at Irton Hall represent the final justification of the Society's faith in the possibility of providing education for heavily-handicapped slow-learning children.

When Irton Hall was opened in 1957 it was met with some opposition from even the most sympathetic authorities. This was England's pioneer school to meet the need of children who could learn only at a very slow rate because of multiple handicaps.

Last year the school was recognised and the completion of the extensions in December

l Schools and Centres

INGFIELD MANOR SCHOOL

(Recognised by the Department of Education and Science).

Five Oaks, nr. Billingshurst, Sussex.
(Telephone: Billingshurst 2294.)

Headmistress: Miss E. M. Varty.

Opened in 1961 and recognised in 1963, the school accommodates 50 boarding and two day pupils between 5 and 16 years of age who always have to learn more slowly by reason of their handicaps. A group of these children are partially-hearing and receive special training by qualified staff in sound-insulated classrooms.

Benefiting from hard-won experience at Irton Hall, the Society developed this school from the beginning by adding purpose-built extensions, including a Partially Hearing Unit. The Jersey Group have acted as particular patrons of this school and provided a wonderful swimming pool in 1964.

The school settled down quickly from the start and passed its inspection for recognition convincingly in less than the normally accepted time for such assessment.



Headmaster: John Nelson.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
D. Herd.
Telephone: Holmrook 242.)

will enable a total of 54 children to receive the special care and understanding they require.

Today the Society's second school for this type of child, Infield Manor, cannot facilitate the high numbers seeking enrolment.

At present Irton Hall accommodates 41 residential pupils aged from 5 to 16 years, who can now look forward to having an assembly hall, swimming pool, domestic science and craft rooms in which to develop their potential capacities to their own particular limits.





ASSESSMENT CENTRE HAWKSWORTH HALL

Guisoley, Leeds, Yorks.
(Telephone: Guiseley 2914.)

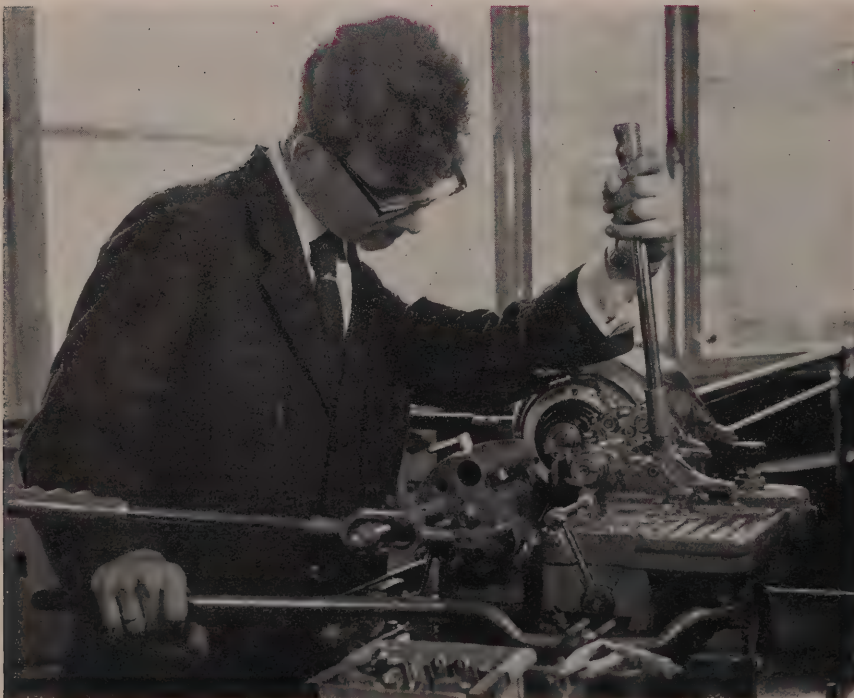
Principal: J. D. Johnson.

A retaining class has recently been established at Hawksworth Hall to ensure continuity of education and auditory training for children who by reason of their special handicap have to wait to be admitted to appropriate schools.

Hawksworth Hall was established in 1952 to assess the potential for learning of severely handicapped children. The school has facilities for 24 children between the ages of 5 and 12 years. These children are so severely handicapped that the normal methods of assessment could not establish their educability. They work in a highly staffed school setting and close observation by teacher, therapists and consultants is co-ordinated to enable a long-term programme of education or training to be forecast for each child.

A new extension in 1963 has provided much needed relief to the cramped working conditions. One of the most popular additions has been a large hydro-therapy pool.

National Residential Schools and Centres



'SHERRARDS' TRAINING CENTRE

(Recognised by the Ministry of Labour).

Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.
(Telephone: Welwyn Garden 22125.)

Principal: V. King.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
The Hon. Lady Bowes Lyon.

Sixty-six students are now engaged at Sherrards Training Centre.

Their work, including engineering, woodwork, domestic duties and office work, done entirely on sub-contract in relation to normal sub-contract prices. This aims at making students aware of the competition that must be faced in open industry.

Since the Centre's opening in 1957, some 220 people have received training. Last year 34 were placed in open industry.

The success of Sherrards has resulted in the planning of a second Centre in Lancaster.

DENE PARK FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE

Dene Park, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge,
Kent.

(Telephone: Tonbridge 3859.)

Principal: P. K. Mayhew, M.A.

Forty-two school leavers receive here a special programme of remedial basic social and physical education to help them to face the problems of entering into an adult community, when by reason of their handicap opportunity for maturation has been restricted. Close co-operation with the Society's Careers Advisory Departments helps to ensure a wise placement in open or sheltered employment, further training or other settlement in adult society.

The students spend only one year at Dene Park, and this means that every six months 21 new young people come in to take the places of those that have just left. While it brings about the opportunity for useful social adjustment on a fairly large scale, it does create problems for the staff who are faced with a continual pressure to provide new programmes, to complete assessments and to make the necessary reports.



National Residential Schools and Centres

OAKWOOD CENTRE

High Street, Kelvedon, Essex.

(Telephone: Kelvedon 208.)

Tutor Organiser: Miss L. Garaway, M.A.

Oakwood Centre, established in June 1964, is an ultra-modern purpose built unit which aims at providing an intellectually and socially stimulating environment for mixed groups of young adults.

The 21 students whose severe handicaps make competitive employment impossible, are cared for on a residential basis.

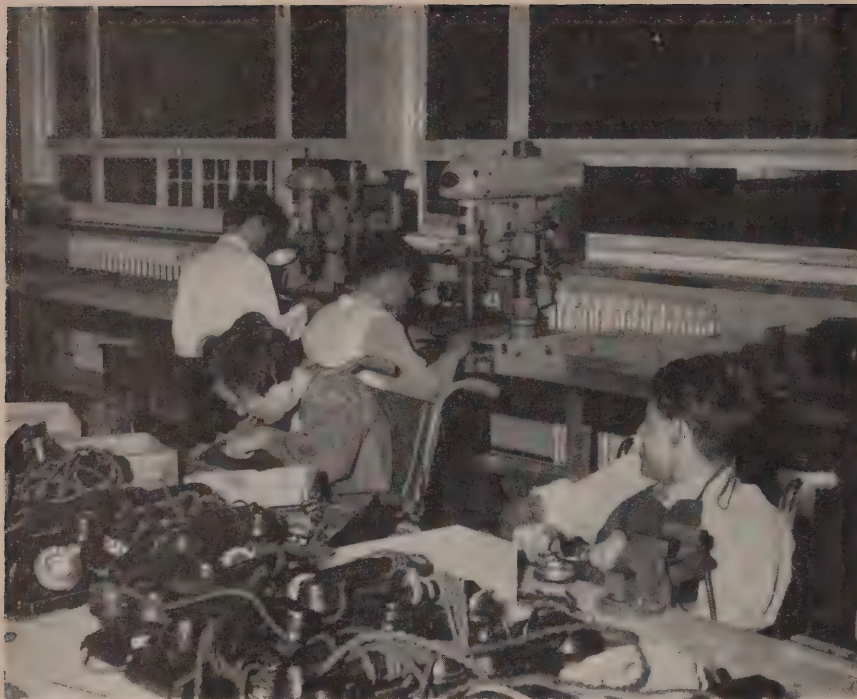
Their ages range from 18 to 25 years.

Oakwood is designed so that students are accommodated in single and double study rooms. Community rooms include a students' lounge, dining room, study and library.

Study, aimed at furthering interest and knowledge in subjects of the students' own choice, is mainly on tutorial lines with some group work on cultural and social studies. It is organised by a resident tutor supplemented by teaching in some specific subjects by visiting tutors, and soon, it is hoped, by contracts with the new University of Essex which opens next September, and with the Colchester Technical College.

(Photo: Courtesy Essex County Standard)





COOMBE FARM CENTRE

Oaks Road, Croydon, Surrey.
(Telephone: Addiscombe 2310.)

Warden: F. W. Bowyer, M.A.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
R. Meek.

Coombe Farm's new specially-adapted 41-seater coach has given residents a far greater opportunity to strengthen outside interests.

Apart from country drives and visits to the local swimming pool, 'Further Education' classes, musical instruction and appreciation and art classes are popular events in the weekly programme. Residents take on sub-contract work and are especially enthusiastic when 'paid' supplementary to their pocket money.

Full use is made of the assembly hall for social occasions, film showings, lectures and live shows. The residents show great enthusiasm for drama classes and it has now become a tradition for younger residents to put on an annual production for the entertainment of their families and friends.

The centre accommodates 45 heavily handicapped young men and girls aged from 16 to 25 years.

National Residential Schools and Centres



DARESBURY HALL

Daresbury, nr. Warrington, Lancs.
(Telephone: Moore 359.)
Warden: F. W. Bellman.

The admission of 28 young women to an entirely male centre has given much to the success of Daresbury Hall's community life.

This dignified Georgian mansion, set amid the pleasant Cheshire countryside, offered accommodation for 23 male adults when it was taken over by the Society in 1959. Today the centre caters for the needs of 59 young men and women aged between 16 and 35.

Specially designed extensions provide excellent facilities for the residents. In the specially built unit residents are given speech therapy, physiotherapy, occupational and recreational therapy. In the workshop residents can participate in a programme which offers them contract work and activities in arts and crafts.

A separate villa in the grounds provides accommodation for eight residents.

Daresbury has attracted a large circle of young friends from all walks of life who come regularly to enjoy social activities with the residents.

PRESTED HALL and THE GRANGE

Kelvedon, Essex.

(Telephone: Kelvedon 482.)

Warden: J. H. Watson.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
Miss Mary Ruck, R.R.C.

Prested Hall is the Society's longest established centre and accommodates 31 spastic men and women. The residents, aged from 25 to 40 years, live in a homely environment where they can pursue their special interests.

Independence is greatly encouraged and when able residents make their own way by 'bus to church, the cinema, theatre and shops.

The Grange is a unit expressly established for the care of 13 heavily handicapped older spastics. It is situated in the main street of the village of Kelvedon and here residents live a full and happy life, sharing community interests.

Extensions and improvements have received strong financial support from the Local Group and from neighbours.



National Residential Schools and Centres

PONDS HOME

Seer Green, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

(Telephone: Jordans 2398/9.)

Warden: Mrs. C. Brown.

Chairman of the House Committee:
Mrs. E. Hambly.

Fifty-six spastics are catered for at Ponds Home, originally started by the British Council for the Welfare of Spastics.

Four of these people attend on a daily basis, while the rest are resident. Ages range from 16 to 45 years.

The family is closely knit and enjoys a wide variety of social pursuits and interests with full therapy facilities and a swimming pool which is constantly in use. Spastics here take part in a further education programme which is assisted by Local Authorities. The programme covers tuition, study and workshop instruction.

Great outside interest is shown in the home and Friends of Ponds and others have given much appreciated financial assistance and encouraging support.



(Photo: Courtesy Middlesex County Press)



CHESTER OFFICE TRAINING CENTRE

Western Avenue, off Saughall Road,
Blacon, Cheshire.

(Telephone: Chester 26987.)

Principal: Mrs. V. S. Parker.

One hundred and sixty young spastic men and women have been accepted for training at the Chester Office Training Centre since its humble beginning in a converted out-house in 1959.

The purpose of the Centre is to provide basic knowledge for the type of work performed in an office. Instruction can be given in the use of office equipment and in addition trainees are made familiar with different office routine including filing, post room work, reception work and telephone duties. Trainees can also attend revision classes in English, arithmetic and spelling.

Accommodation during training is provided in private lodgings nearby. At Chester a small hostel has been established where trainees enjoy a homely life amid pleasant surroundings.

National Residential Schools and Centres



FAMILY HELP UNIT

The Mount, Elm Bank, Nottingham.

(Telephone: Nottingham 66271-2.)

Warden: P. E. Habieb.

The Mount, the Society's family help unit at Nottingham, is the first of its kind in England.

The unit provides short term residential care for heavily handicapped spastic children who are admitted either because of a domestic emergency or to provide periodic relief for their family. It has a professional staff, two nursery nurses, two housemothers and three home visitors all under the charge of the warden. Now a regional social worker has been appointed by the Society who works closely with the home visitors.

In the six months from October, 1964, to March of this year, 86 children visited the Mount on an average stay of two weeks. During the same period between six to ten children attended daily.

The community at large is becoming increasingly aware of the work of the unit and as a result of one visit a rota of school girls come regularly to help the staff with the children.

ARUNDEL PRIVATE HOTEL

23 The Leas, Westcliff-on-Sea.
(Telephone: Southend 476351.)

Manageress: Miss M. Burden.

This season will see a marked improvement in the facilities at Arundel Holiday Hotel.

The plan will include an increase in modern community rooms for visiting spastics and their accompanying relatives and friends.

The hotel, now in its ninth year, overlooks the sea front and has the convenience of a beach hut only a short distance away.

It is open all the year round and offers accommodation for 19 guests. A mini-bus has been recently acquired to meet visitors and to transport them to various beauty spots.

Care staff is now provided for families requiring help.

Applications from handicapped persons outside the Society are considered during off-peak periods when bookings are not so high.



National Residential Schools and Centres

THE BEDFONT HOTEL

Marine Parade West, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.
(Telephone: Clacton 25230.)

Manageress: Mrs. J. P. K. Molyneux.

The Bedfont Holiday Hotel, now open right throughout the year, caters for a total of 16 visitors.

The Hotel, opened for the summer season of 1963, also has facilities for short stay care. Recent extensions include a lift which allows easy access to all floors.

Like the Arundel Hotel, the Bedfont is ideally situated right on the seafront, between Butlin's Holiday Camp and the Clacton Pier. The hotel's beach hut is directly opposite.

Although many of the guests are fully independent, there is a full time care staff which eliminates the need for spastics to be accompanied by escorts.

A mini-bus is available for tours and outings and in the off-peak season applications from other handicapped persons are considered should there not be sufficient bookings by spastics within the Society.





BUXTON RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

The Bedford, St. John's Road, Buxton, Derbyshire.

(Telephone: Buxton 3541.)

Warden. D. H. Simpson.

The Bedford's new purpose-built workshop is expected to be completed by December.

The workshop has been donated by the Jersey Group and by that date should be in full operation.

The present workshop is far too inadequate and as a result activities are infiltrating into different rooms all over the house.

The Bedford accommodates 34 adults whose ages range from 16 to 45 years. It is centrally positioned within one-third of a mile from the railway station and in the heart of Buxton, and provides residents with a co-ordinated programme of study, sub-contract work, arts and crafts to suit individual requirements. Treatment is given where required. Regular social activities include nights at the theatre and cinema and country drives. Ten-pin bowling and chess are the newest hobbies tackled by residents.

National Residential Schools and Centres



JACQUES HALL CENTRE

Bradfield, nr. Manningtree, Essex.

(Telephone: WIX 311.)

Warden: V. P. Devonport.

Residents of Jacques Hall have been quickly accepted into the local community and now regularly attend a weekly dance where they meet and mix with other spastics and handicapped people.

This centre opened last spring with 15 comparatively lightly physically handicapped young adults.

Jacques Hall is an attractive manor house set amid 23 acres of ground on the estuary of the Stour. Residents enjoy a happy homelife with a daily programme designed to suit individual limitations and to foster specialised interests. The occupational and therapy programme covers sub-contract work, arts and crafts, poultry farming, gardening etc. Several residents make regular visits to the lending library, whilst every encouragement is given to those wishing to take correspondence courses or receive educational tuition.

S.O.S. HOLIDAY HOTEL FOR SPASTIC CHILDREN

Colwall Court, Bexhill.

(Telephone: Bexhill 1491.)

Manager: G. H. Marsh.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
Miss Hy Hazell.

Established by the Stars' Organisation for Spastics, Colwall Court Holiday Hotel accommodates 23 children. Since its opening by the Countess of Westmorland (President of the S.O.S.) in 1959, hundreds of spastic children whose physical handicaps prevent them from admission to a hotel or boarding house have enjoyed a happy holiday. Provision has been made for a limited number of parents in off-peak periods to accompany their children but a qualified staff, including a State Registered Nurse, enable parents to go away for their holiday with the assurance that their child is being well cared for.

The children are taken on many excursions in the hotel bus and fully enjoy a heated swimming pool in the grounds.



National Residential Schools and Centres

WAKES HALL (Stars' Organisation for Spastics)

Wakes Colne, Essex.

(Telephone: Earls Colne 476.)

Warden: E. T. Warne.

Wakes Hall, officially opened on July 12, 1964, is a residential centre for 17 older spastics. Accommodation is provided with a family atmosphere and the residents are participating in the activities of the local Essex Community.



BIRMINGHAM

MEADWAY WORKS

Garretts Green Lane, Birmingham 33.

BIRMINGHAM HOSTEL

Broadstones, Broadstone Road,
Birmingham 26

Works Manager: H. Cragg.

Hostel Housekeeper Bursar: Mrs. Caldbeck.

Birmingham Hostel will open in mid-August, and will eventually accommodate 100 spastics.

The Sheltered Workshop project, located half-a-mile from the Hostel, will be completed earlier and will commence work with 20 local spastics.

The workshop will be divided into separate units. The printing section, the first to go into operation, will be equipped with Heidelberg presses for the production of Spastics Christmas cards. Modern automatic and manual machine tools will equip the light machine shop which will be engaged on sub-contract work for engineering projects. The press shop will have hand and power presses and sheet metal machining equipment, etc.



National Residential Schools and Centres

AGRICULTURAL WORK CENTRE

Thorngrove, Gillingham, Dorset.

Spastics are expected to start work at the end of October at the Society's new agricultural work centre, Thorngrove. Extensions and improvements are now in progress, and the Centre should be ready to take on its full enrolment next spring.

It is proposed that the house will provide accommodation for 28 young men and several girls of varying age groups.

Thorngrove, on the outskirts of Gillingham in Dorset, is surrounded by 39 acres of parkland. The house is a three-storeyed Victorian style which was originally added to an old farmhouse called Queen's Manor.

The girls will be mainly concerned with domestic duties and also in keeping poultry to supply the hostel with eggs all year round. Surplus eggs will be sold in local markets. Apart from agricultural tasks the men will take charge of a herd of cows, and will be responsible for fattening calves for sale and raising pigs. It is hoped that sufficient greens will be grown in the vegetable garden to keep the hostel in plentiful supply. Greenhouse products will also be sold in local markets.



KYRE PARK HOUSE

Kyre Magna, Tenbury, Wells, Worcs.
(Telephone: Kyre 282.)

Warden: W. R. Barley.

The completion of stage two of the building programme for Kyre Park House will double present accommodation facilities.

At present Kyre Park caters for 20 adult spastics of both sexes. A percentage of the residents are wheelchair cases. Ages range from 16 to 35 years.

Kyre Park House, which opened this summer, is a large property set in an estate of 29 acres. Lakes and ornamental water gardens take up eight acres of this area. The estate includes two buildings of historic interest—a dove cote, and tithe barn which will become part of the accommodation available for adult activities.

Staff are already planning programmes to meet individual needs and to ensure that all aspects of work, therapy, education and social activities are catered for.

The staff comprises of a Warden and a supportive team which will cover the requirements of the centre's administration.



National Residential Schools and Centres

MELDRETH MANOR

Melbourn, nr. Royston, Herts.
(Telephone: Melbourn Cambridge 547.)

Well over 100 children will eventually be enrolled at Meldreth Manor—the Society's new development due to open next year. These will be children who cannot benefit from educational facilities already available in the Society's Schools.

A specialised team of experts will combine to discover and extend the latent gifts of the individual child and will encourage each towards independence and adjustment to the problems they will have to face in life.

Social training, therapy and basic educational methods will be used, and in particular, great emphasis will be placed on the care, love and understanding needed by these children.

Meldreth Manor, near Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, will be a purpose built residential unit made up of four houses and central facilities.



CASTLE PRIORY COLLEGE

Thames Street, Wallingford, Berks.
(Telephone: Wallingford 2551.)

Principal: Mrs. J. W. Knowles, B.A.

THIS college has been established to raise the quality of our staff in all sections of the Society's work in schools, residential centres, local centres and in research.

Special attention is paid to the training of care staff, to the increase of professional skills, particularly in the spheres of cerebral palsy and to the development of a greater understanding between employees in all fields of our work. Links will be forged with other research bodies, so that the material gathered in the course of interchange of experience between staff attending the various study groups is made fully available to increase overall efficiency.

The first houseparent course began in September, 1964, and will continue until next December—partly as attachments to various schools and homes, partly in study courses at the college itself. Already two short refresher courses for senior houseparents in the Society's schools and centres have been held at the college and another for junior staff in local centres.

There will be a growing programme of induction courses for all types of staff, refresher courses for staff with longer service, professional study groups and groups of different professions who will examine ways and means of understanding each other's task and of working more efficiently together for the benefit of pupils in schools, residents in homes and those attending local group centres.

As the present college buildings are limited, the course programme is in turn restricted and temporary leases in the neighbourhood are being used to increase the accommodation until a purpose built extension can be added.

Schools Affiliated to the Spastics Society

BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL

43 Shrewsbury Road,
Oxton, Birkenhead,
Cheshire
(Telephone: Claughton 2583)

Headmistress: Mrs. M. Collinge, B.A.

BIRTENSHAW HALL SCHOOL

Darwen Road,
Bromley Cross,
Bolton, Lancs.
(Telephone: Eagley 230)

Headmaster: D. A. Hiles, Esq.

DAME HANNAH ROGERS SCHOOL

Ivybridge,
Devon
(Telephone: Ivybridge 461)

Headmistress: Miss B. G. Sutcliffe

PERCY HEDLEY SCHOOL

Forest Hall,
Newcastle-on-Tyne, 12
(Telephone: Newcastle 66-5491/2)

Headmaster: D. D. Johnston, Esq.
M.A., M.Ed.

Looking

Ahead

THE year 1964/65 has been a year of considerable achievement with no less than 30 new projects or extensions to existing projects completed, and, during the coming year the Society will open its 100th centre. This, of course, is a source of pride. The Society is aware however of the dangers of thinking too much in terms of bricks and mortar and prefers to consider its work in terms of personal services to spastics and their families.

As was pointed out in last year's Annual Report, the work of the Society will be seriously hampered unless its income can be increased. It must be remembered that the more new centres are opened the higher will be the Society's running costs. What is spent on maintaining existing centres cannot be spent on building new centres. This situation would seem to dictate that the Society must now look for work which can be undertaken at moderate initial cost and in areas where running costs are likely to be relatively low.

The most likely pattern of years ahead will therefore be one of smaller centres with lower running costs; many of these will be Day Centres having direct links with community services, but to what extent will the local groups concerned be able to exploit the strong position of having a well designed centre? Will they regard it as an end in itself; a place where a limited number of spastics of well defined category can be cared for six hours a day, five days a week, or will they also regard the Centre as a place from which much other activity can be organised, for example, baby-sitting services, the giving of practical advice and help to parents, the organising of holidays, the playing of a part in local government. In fact, the whole range of activity which centres around improving the environment of spastics living with their families and as part of the community.

Perhaps one of the greatest hazards confronting the Society stems from its own philosophy. The Society has always assumed a degree of responsibility for all sufferers from cerebral palsy and this has translated into the practice of never sending away entirely empty-handed anyone in genuine need of help. Even if a place could not be offered in a Centre or a School, good advice and comfort was given. But as the Society became more successful at fund raising so the feeling grew within the Society and expectations grew in those dealing with the Society, that the good advice and comfort was not enough and that what ought to be provided was the place in the School or Centre that was asked for and if there were not sufficient places in existing Schools and Centres, then new ones must be built and built quickly. But to provide residential places for all spastics who require them is quite beyond the resources of the Society. A new Boarding School could cost more than

£500,000 and a new Residential Centre not less than £200,000. These are large sums indeed and if the Society were to think that it could provide a great many units of this order then not only would it be deceiving itself but, if such an attitude were made public, it would do infinite harm since other Bodies concerned, Government Departments, Local Authorities and other interested charities might come to feel that they could quite reasonably slacken off and begin to put their resources to other uses. It is therefore essential that it should be held as an article of faith that the Society shares its task with others. It must always be available to any sufferer from cerebral palsy but it must include in its mode of operation concepts of co-operation with and encouragement of others who have at least as great a responsibility for the cerebrally palsied as has the Spastics Society.

A great majority of spastics in the care of the Society are heavily handicapped and although fees received from Local Authorities are not sufficient there is always present in the Society the fear that by charging Local Authorities the full cost, it will be more difficult for those Authorities to afford to pay for children and adults at our Schools and Centres. If Local Authorities are prevented for financial reasons from sending children and adults to the Society for care and education, and if as a result heavily handicapped spastics are sent to mental hospitals or placed in geriatric wards, then one of the main aims of the Society will have been defeated. This is a grave dilemma which the Society must resolve and one of the means must be by obtaining from Local Authorities a greater understanding of the Society's future plan of work and what is possible with its quite substantial, but nevertheless, limited income.

The Society as a National Body must, of course, continue to provide facilities that are beyond the resources of local groups and maintain its present network of Boarding Schools and Residential Centres. It must enlarge its schools, build more centres, particularly more centres for heavily handicapped spastics who cannot live at home, and, provide more facilities for young spastics who, with specialised training, can take their place in the office or at the work bench with other young people. The Society must also provide a strong, efficient Social Work Service and finance research and the publication of important work on cerebral palsy. Work of this order and magnitude will entail the raising of very large sums of money and this will not be possible without the goodwill of the great majority of the British public. Not only must the Society undertake big programmes of work and accept big challenges but it must be seen to do so and the way in which to tackle the task must meet with wide approval.

Social Services, Careers Advice and Employment

IT is not easy to assess the value or measure the success of social work and personal services and even where statistics can furnish some evidence, as in placement in jobs, the figures seem very small and do not in any way represent the amount of work that will, in most cases, have been involved. It is, however, clear that the services offered by the Social Work & Employment Department are becoming increasingly widely known and 1,326 new families sought the Society's help during the year. These families range from young parents facing the sadness and many problems that will inevitably be involved in bringing up their newly-born spastic child to the spastic man in his 70's who asked for our advice in finding a new housekeeper. This work with families and individual spastics is undertaken by trained Social Workers who may work on a Regional basis covering the whole range of problems, or in the more specialised departments at Park Crescent dealing with either children and their families or adults.

Alongside the specialised family casework, careers advisory and placement services, has developed a wide range of help to make the life of an individual spastic or a family richer and easier for everyone concerned. This help, which is often on a very practical level, covers advice on the very large and varied selection of appliances, aids and gadgets, transport, holidays, social clubs and many other services to help the whole family. Grants have also been made available through the Samaritan Fund to meet a very wide variety of needs and a total of £12,061 was spent in this way during the past year.

Children and Families

Since its establishment, the Department has been concerned with the welfare of spastic children and their families in every sense of the word. Each year brings an increasing number of children and families to the notice of the Social Workers and our efforts are always towards providing within the limitations of our resources, the maximum help to the child and his family. As we learn more and more about the needs of the spastic child and his family, we are in a better position to offer appropriate help at the most opportune time and so use our resources to their maximum effect. As a department we are becoming increasingly conscious of the variety and intensity of problems associated with having a handicapped child in the family. As a result of the residential assessment and parent training courses held during last winter at Bexhill, very valuable information about the range of problems that families face was provided and ways pointed in which many of these situations could be relieved or perhaps even prevented from occurring. The old adage that 'Prevention is better than cure' is very true, and has particular significance in our work with families.

We recognise that the spastic child must receive the best and most appropriate treatment available and his changing needs must

be assessed and provided for so that he has the maximum opportunities for developing into a sociable and happy human being. But all this starts at birth and is a process that goes on throughout life. As with most processes it is the beginning that is most important and which may well determine the end result. For this reason we need to be very aware and sensitive to the needs of both the child and his family in the early years. That is why it is important that children are referred to the Society at an early age; the earlier the better. Such referrals enable the Social Worker to see that all sources of practical help are available to the family or that the way is eased between the family and the various bodies which exist to treat, train and help care for their child in these early years.

It is also a time when families are in most urgent need of help and when they are most accessible to help; they are also very vulnerable at this time and particularly vulnerable to unhelpful attitudes and behaviour in others!

But the spastic child is only one member of the family. Just as much thought and concern needs to be shown to the other members of the family so that instead of a burdensome problem, the situation may become a positive and very real experience for the whole family, perhaps uniting them into a closer family group.

Nor are we concerned only with the very young child; the number of referrals for the year amounted to 602 and of these 400 were over 5 years. At about 5 years the parents' main concern is for the most appropriate schooling and it is here that the Consultant Panel has a valuable service to offer in assessing the child and advising parents. During the past year, the Panel saw nearly 300 children and their parents, plus 200 adult spastics. Sometimes a possible change of school or residential school placing is envisaged and as this affects not only the child but the whole family, the total family situation must be carefully considered. In many cases these important decisions and changes arouse strong feelings in various members of the family and such personal difficulties call for individual attention from trained and experienced workers. Although every effort has been made to meet these particular needs, the Society is conscious of the increasing demand for an expert service and is, at the same time, seeking ways of developing additional services to families. A part of this service is giving the very practical help that families need in order that they can continue the care and responsibility of the child in their own home.

Apart from practical problems which can sometimes be dealt with in a very real way by supplying equipment, aids, holidays and financial help, there are the personal problems which require serious and sometimes intensive casework. As severe stress occasioned by the presence of a handicapped child frequently brings to the surface individual and family problems, the social worker needs special training and experience to meet these

demands. It may be that such a service is required only at particular times for instance, at times of great stress or crisis, but ideally it should be available continuously.

The importance of this particular service needs no emphasis except to repeat that skilled help at the time when it is first sought (or needed) does reduce the accumulation of problems and difficulties later on. Prevention is better than cure and, in terms of a reduction of human suffering, is an urgent necessity.

Boys and Girls leaving School

What a child will do when he or she leaves school is a problem that concerns all parents, and when a child is physically and sometimes intellectually handicapped as well the problems are obviously intensified, not only for the parents but for the boys and girls themselves. The crucial decision is whether the boy or girl is going to be able to manage a job and so become self-supporting and, in his or her own eyes, a normal person. Our careers advisory service can, and does, help parents and the young people themselves to face the problems squarely by bringing out the potential but, at the same time, being fully realistic and aware of the many problems that will inevitably be involved. Employment Assessment Courses, which are now an established feature of the careers advisory service, enable hundreds of young people each year to see where their future may lie. Group discussions and individual counselling can often help in the acceptance that if one is severely handicapped there are satisfying alternatives to competitive employment and many young adult spastics have settled down and are making very useful contributions in Work Centres. During the past year, 488 new school leavers and older spastics were seen by the Advisory Officers and 352 more have attended the Department's special courses making a total of well over 1,000 since these courses started in July, 1958.

The first students left Dene Park Further Education Centre in September, 1964, and since then there has been a steady turnover as boys and girls complete their year's course. Some students have moved straight into jobs, but this has never been the main criterion for success as many will always be too severely handicapped to be able to cope with the demands of normal employment. Others have gone to Training Centres and special Workshops and some back to their homes. There is no doubt that these young people have benefited a great deal from the special programme that is planned to help them to bridge the gap between school and the next stage of their career and nearly all have gone home better equipped to cope with the demands of adult life.

Training and Placement

The services for helping adolescent and adult spastics who are likely to be able to manage work in the industrial or commercial world or in sheltered workshops have con-



Mr. S. T. Allman, the Society's Employment Officer, demonstrating the use of Hand Tools during a practical session on an Assessment Course



Miss S. Keene asking questions during an Assessment Course discussion

tinued to expand and a Placement Officer has recently been appointed to work in the North of England. Our advice is increasingly sought on a wide variety of training facilities, and this is welcomed, as so often in the past

young spastics have started courses which were beyond their capabilities and there has been much disappointment and frustration when they were not able to finish the course.

The demand for places at the Society's

Training Centres, Sherrards and Chester, has increased rapidly during the past year and in spite of the additional places and quicker turnover at both Centres the waiting list for industrial training has more than doubled. The position will be easier when the new Training Centre in Lancaster is completed but at present young people are having to wait at least two years for a place at Sherrards.

The opening of the Sheltered Workshop and hostel in Birmingham will provide employment for 120 adult spastics who have waited many years for this opportunity. The first employees begin work in August and the factory will be up to half strength by the end of 1965.

The department has continued to work very closely with the Disablement Resettlement Officers of the Ministry of Labour and the Youth Employment Service and our placement service is in great demand. The amount of time and energy spent in finding the right job for one spastic can be considerable but this intensive work merits all the effort involved as the great majority who are placed in jobs settle down and give satisfaction to their employers. This satisfactory service encourages firms to engage other handicapped people and to a very large extent the success of our work depends on the reliability and competence of those whom we have placed. In very many cases our confidence has proved to be well founded and during the past year a further 289 spastics were directly helped to settle into jobs.

Work at Home

The development of our homework services is still proceeding slowly as it is essential to relate production to sales, especially with goods that can be produced quickly, like jewellery and Christmas cards. The sales position is continuing to improve and new designs are now available. With the showroom facilities in Central London and the Mobile Exhibition Unit we plan to step up production during the coming year and to enrol new homeworkers. The demand for spastic-printed Christmas cards has continued to rise and several new home printers have been taken on during the year.

Advisory Services for Adults

There are, unfortunately, many spastic adults who, because of their handicap or other circumstances are unable to work or to have much contact with other people of similar age and interests. The main problems facing us with this large group of young and older people are to help find suitable outlets for them and to provide support to their families in looking after them at home.

The opportunity to work means much more than simply being kept occupied. It implies being able to earn money and have at least a degree of financial independence. It demonstrates that one is no longer a child but that one is now an adult, expected to contribute as far as possible towards one's own living.



Feeding for themselves. An Independence Holiday at Colwall Court

For a handicapped person it means a chance to do some giving instead of always being on the receiving end.

It is difficult to know how to arrange opportunities for real and satisfying work and for social contacts for large numbers of people scattered all over the country, with widely differing levels of ability, needs and ambitions. To offer residential care is one answer, and the Society has a full programme of new Centres and hostels to be opened within the next five years. But this is certainly not the only answer, nor even always the best one. For most people to be at home offers the best chance of a normal life, provided that this does not mean sitting around with nothing to do. Day centres which can offer real work and transport to get there, social exchange and a change of surroundings go a long way towards enabling a person to feel that his life has some positive meaning.

But for anyone to accept that he will always be very dependent on others for his sheer physical well-being, let alone his emotional well-being, and for parents to have to struggle to ensure that someone will take over when they no longer can cope, can be very depressing—even when all the possible practical provisions have been made. What is needed then is someone to talk to who will not demand gratitude for what has already been provided but who can tolerate that a handicapped person has as much right to depression as anyone else, and can in fact get very depressed.

Perhaps the hardest lesson a caseworker has to learn is that there are circumstances when initiating action in terms of finding work or providing holidays is not what an individual or family is seeking, but where the relationship they may establish with the person is of more value. To feel that someone is trying

to understand and accept your feelings without telling you how you ought to be feeling or what you ought to be doing is in itself supportive and can enable a person to carry on with a burden which could otherwise become intolerable. With our limited staff it is not possible to provide as full a supportive service as we may wish, though our Social Workers co-operate with others in the field so that all possible resources can be used.

Work in the Regions

Some progress has been made this year in expanding the Regional Social Work Service, but this is a necessarily slow process as senior Social Workers of the right calibre are hard to find. Nevertheless two new Regional Social Workers and one part-time Assistant joined the team early in 1965, making a total of ten Social Workers available in the Regions. We consider that this service is an important one and it is hoped to establish Regional Social Workers in the two remaining Regions and to support the established Regions by recruiting part-time assistants during the course of this year.

Locally-based social workers have a unique opportunity to contribute to the overall services in the field of cerebral palsy in their areas and a glance at their normal monthly programmes gives one some idea of their place in the local scene.

While a good deal of time is spent in casework visiting—for the Regional Social Workers are involved in the full range of the Society's personal services to spastics—it is interesting to see how many hours are devoted to making and maintaining contacts at an informal level with the great variety of people who are concerned in some way with the care of spastics. No one would imagine that the Society's social workers could, or should, be involved with every spastic child and adult in a Region, but there are many occasions when a friendly conference with our specialised worker helps a colleague to carry on a good job of work with greater understanding and renewed confidence. It is also encouraging to see how many times our Regional Social Workers are invited to join Case Conferences or to attend C.P. clinics in their areas. Good relationships of this kind within a Region can have a far-reaching effect in terms of greater understanding of the complex problems of cerebral palsy, smoother co-operation between agencies and more inspired planning for the future.

Holidays

A holiday away from one's home, and sometimes one's family too, is a great tonic and if you are handicapped with restricted opportunities to travel and see new surroundings, this break is really essential. Our Holiday Organiser has been kept very busy during the year giving advice on suitable hotels and other accommodation and planning special types of holiday for teenage groups. A group will be joining a Cruise later this year and next year it is hoped to plan several holidays

Psychology and Spastics

Psychologists have been employed by the Society since its early days. Until recent years their work has been mostly on assessment and the selection of candidates for the right kind of training and education, with some follow up work and further advice to parents and schools or centres. This assessment and selection work is now well established and some 750 children and adults were seen in 1964, many for the first time as far as a psychological assessment is concerned.

The current research into the reliability of such assessment may well lead to improvements in techniques, but it is clear that psychology has more to offer the Society than techniques of assessment. Indeed the most important questions arise *after* the measurement of abilities and disabilities, such as how a particular person's abilities can be brought to fruition, or how disabilities can be overcome or circumvented; which type of education or training will be more suitable; will the development of talent be hampered by emotional blocking or distractibility? If so, what can be done about these? Have the parents and teachers understood what the psychologist is trying to say (or have they been put off by the jargon). Finally, has the person with cerebral palsy understood the psychologist's findings about the way in which he or she might reach a particular educational or vocational goal?

Psychology can contribute some of the answers to these questions and the next development in our work must concentrate on what happens after assessment, which method of training and education and counselling will be most fruitful. Considerable long term research will be essential, for there are no short answers to these important questions yet.

The present staff of three psychologists is being increased (as soon as the national shortage of psychologists will permit) to include a Principal Psychologist, a Senior Educational and Assistant Psychologist, and a Senior Clinical and Assistant Psychologist. The expanded department, under the Principal Psychologist, will maintain close contact with other services and consultants within the Society, and with other bodies such as the Educational Advisory Committee and the London Institute of Education. Its overall aim will be to ensure that psychological findings, in both theoretical and applied work, and in respect of both normal and exceptional persons, is readily available to further the educational, social and vocational welfare of spastics.

abroad, in addition to other organised parties for equally adventurous expeditions.

Clubs for Spastics

The sponsoring of the '62 Club movement has continued. There are now 20 such Clubs in the country, ranging from York and Manchester in the North, Nottingham, Derby and Coventry in the Midlands, and Southend, London and Falmouth in the South. Not only are spastic people benefiting from running their own social affairs, but other handicapped people are being invited to join in these activities. The development of the treatment, education and training of spastic people is undoubtedly enabling them to take a much greater part in planning their own affairs, and these Clubs give them experience of social activities that they would not otherwise have.

A new venture of the Club Organiser's office is the running of Working Holidays, where young spastic adults enjoy fending for themselves and planning their own holiday activities.

Aids and Appliances

The requests for advice and practical help with the enormous range of aids and appliances that are available are extremely varied and at times quite unusual. The right gadget at the right time can be of tremendous help and the Appliances Officer's library grows daily.

A good deal of work has gone into improving designs of appliances and in some instances prototypes have been built and tried out. Contact has been maintained with manufacturers and certain items of help to handicapped people can be obtained at discount direct from manufacturers through the Society. The Appliance Officer has also represented the Society on a national committee concerned with the general problems of the mobility of the disabled, and is one of the five representatives drawn from this Committee to meet once a quarter, for informal talks, the senior officials of the Ministry of Health.

As well as all these personal services offered by the Society, our efforts are always towards directing families to the services that are already available in the community. In fact, we are the interpreters of family needs and through evaluating public services can sometimes suggest ways in which improvements can be made. Through publicity much can be achieved to ensure that the child and his family get the service and support they need. Much of the present misunderstanding about the spastic child can be overcome by giving factual information and this the department does in various ways; by providing material for talks, liaison with other workers in related fields, by holding residential courses for parents, by lecturing staff and students on the problems associated with having a handicapped child and, at the same time, continuing to deal with the day to day queries through correspondence and casework with families.

All problems concerning the management of local centres are now dealt with in the Schools and Centres Department by the newly set up Professional Advisory Service.

Apart from the general and routine enquiries, which are referred to head office, it is hoped that once the service is established it will be able to help groups improve the standard and scope of the services they provide. There is a considerable fund of knowledge and expertise available in the country, particularly among Groups with Centres, and it is the intention to make this information available to all centres.

It will clearly be some time before the Service can be fully effective, but once it gets under way it should provide an extension of head office services to groups.

Improved Local Facilities

With local authority plans for the future, now rather more ascertainable than they have been in the past, it is possible for groups to plan more realistically. Though the same trend in work centre development is reflected in local authority plans it is now clear that these plans will still leave gaps in the service which require supplementary support from local spastic societies. But it is not clear that local authority development is necessarily to be on a full-time basis or that work to be done in these new centres will be based on the industrialised activities being undertaken at many of the Society's present centres. Recognising these limits, four local societies opened new or extended centres for unemployable adults during the year, which between them provide a further 150 places.

Croydon has set the pattern in work centre development; the first of a new line in industrialised buildings, pioneered the previous year by the North Surrey Group, has been built to provide work for up to 40 adults of varying degrees of handicap. The official opening by H.R.H. Princess Marina during the year marked the end of a period of continuous struggle and negotiation for the development of new premises, not only for the work unit but also for the children's centre. This was a struggle which lasted for over four years; but for the adult spastics of Croydon and district it has been a struggle well justified, for their new centre now provides a wide range of both industrial and traditional work. An interesting feature of the centre is the special provision made for domestic training in a work kitchen to enable and to encourage the spastic to become as independent as his handicap permits. After only a few months of operation it is evident that the centre is to be a considerable success and one which others will well seek to emulate.

The Spastics Association in Bristol has for some years operated a work centre in the City for up to 40 adult spastics. Now that number can be increased in stages over the years to a total of 100 adult workers as the centre, a converted church, has been extended to more than double the available accommodation. That the adult problem in Bristol has justified this action is quite clear and already after only a few weeks following completion of the new building the numbers attending are rising. To enable adults from beyond the range of daily travel to attend the centre and

to benefit from the new facilities offered there, and to accommodate a number of adults who are able to maintain open employment, the Society has developed a hostel in Bristol. For the Bristol Association this step has been possible only as a result of an agreement between them and the local authority that the latter should take over and operate the Association's day centre. This is a formula which must be regarded as very satisfying to all concerned.

A Major Exercise

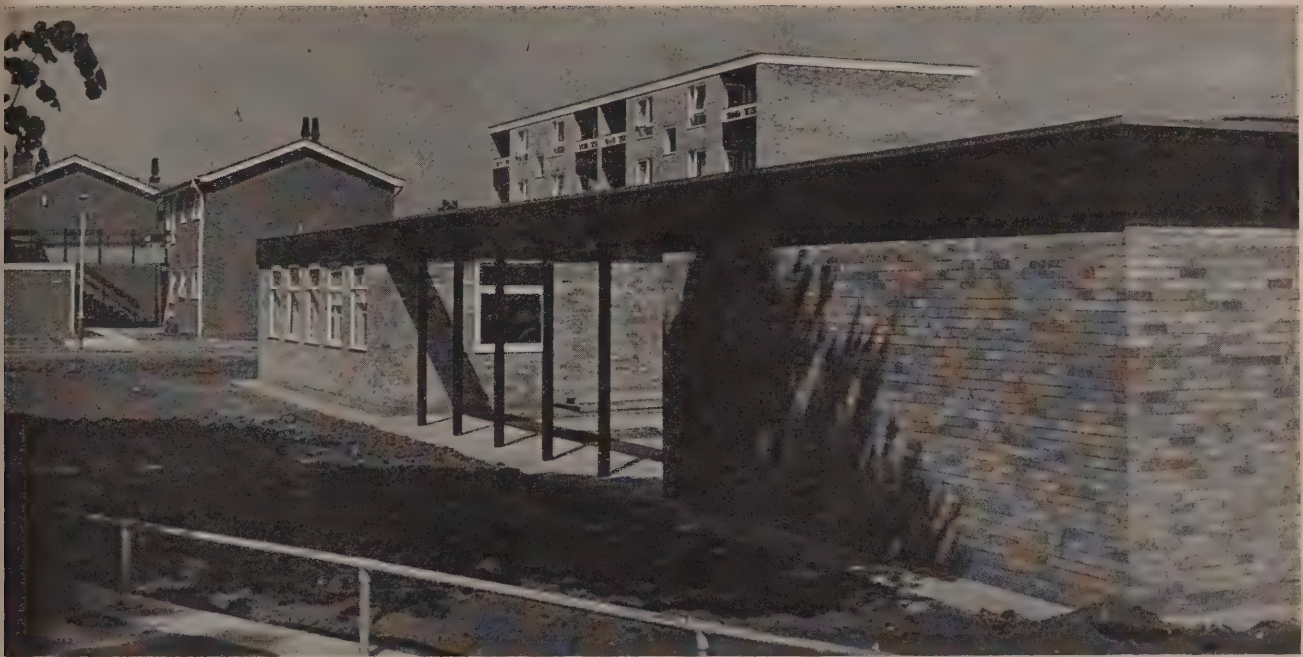
For Plymouth C.P. Association a new work centre also features in the development programme; to make possible the development of the Trengweath School and Centre by the inclusion of Family Help Services it has been necessary to displace the work centre now in operation there. The development of the centre has proved to be a major exercise and to assist with the provision of temporary accommodation to cover the period of the building contract, the Association has proceeded with the provision of a hostel in Plymouth. This is now in operation and arrangements have been made for part of this to accommodate the work unit on an essentially short-term basis. Once complete, the new hostel will then accommodate up to eight adult residents many of whom will be able to attend the re-planned work centre which will comprise the ground floor of the new extension block to the Trengweath centre.

Halifax too has been feeling the need for more places in their work centre. Plans are now advanced for the extension of the present centre, and in anticipation of these extended facilities the Society has acquired a hostel in the town to accommodate adults from out-of-town who may be in need of work centre facilities. To maintain an ideal balance, the hostel will accommodate adults who are also able to attend ordinary employment.

Extensive publicity and a great deal of hard work have provided dividends for the Norfolk & Norwich Spastics Association who have recently opened their work centre in Norwich City. An attractive, purpose-built, traditional building set in the middle of a community development in the City will provide the background for a life of industry for up to 40 adult spastics from the country areas and the city. As before, the Society has developed a hostel to enable those beyond the pale of daily travel to benefit from the centre.

PROGRESS in the field of local group centre development has again been a characteristic of the Society's local activities and the impetus of previous years has been maintained. Thirteen new centres were completed, and extensions to a number of others have enabled improved facilities to be made available to more spastics.

The trend of the previous year has again coloured the field of local development where the work centre now features prominently.



(Photo: Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

The Norwich Centre



(Photo: Courtesy Daily Telegraph)

The new Pool at the Sale, Altrincham and District Centre

The new centre has marked the completion of an interesting exercise in co-operation between the local Association and the local authorities concerned. The site on which the centre has been built has been leased from the City authority whose interest in the development not only extended to its inclusion in the development of one of the new neighbourhood districts being developed by the authority but to the services of the City Architect who was responsible for the architectural aspect of the scheme. Altogether an exciting building which has come as a fitting climax to several years of intensive campaigning and fund raising by the local association. No lesser will be the task of raising the funds with which to operate the centre. As in other recently developed centres of this type, emphasis throughout is on industrial activities and it is intended that relations with local industry should be developed to the point at which local sub-contract work will be sufficient to support the centre from the occupational point of view.

The Coventry group is now able to offer extended work facilities for its residents at Penderells. During the year new extensions were carried out which will provide ample accommodation for a range of industrial activities. The development, carried out in system building providing an airy and attractive addition to the centre, is one of a series of phased improvements and extensions proposed for the Home in Coventry.

For Sale and Altrincham, a further expansion of the Lil Stockdale Centre provides a wide range of improved facilities, including a hydrotherapy pool. A growing problem in the Manchester area has been met with growing energy on the part of local groups in the area; in addition to the Sale centre, a new centre has been opened in the Urmston area to provide therapy and day care facilities for children. The centre is purpose built and replaces the old centre operated for some years by the Urmston Group. Sited on the south side of Manchester, it is intended to extend the facilities of this new centre within the next year or two to accommodate adult spastics on an occupation basis. The area from which the spastics will be drawn is beyond the boundaries of the local society and the scheme will fit well into the Society's new policy on local/national developments.

Future Policy

There are many areas in the country where, for one reason or another, services are needed but are not available. There may well be no local group in the area and where this is so the Society may well have to establish a service alone in the first instance, with the intention ultimately of handing over the centre to local groups in the future as and when these have been developed to the point at which they are able to support a centre. So, too, are there groups where services are already being provided by them and additional services are needed with more than the usual help from The Spastics Society. The Society's future development programme reflects ex-



(Photo: Courtesy Croydon Advertiser)

The Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon, Ald. and Mrs. F. T. Cole, watch Julie Moorey at work at the Croydon Centre

tensive local development which falls into this category and which will involve the close co-operation between the local society and the Society. Prominent in this category of centre will be the work centres of the future—a field in which it is evident there will be a continuing need for many years to come. Day centres too will feature on a local/national basis and it is interesting to note that during the year under review negotiations have been started with a number of local authorities for the joint provision of new services to spastics, with the ultimate intention of handing over those services and the responsibilities for providing them to the local authority concerned.

Examples of this type of planning are many. At Derby, negotiations with the local society and the hospital authority have now reached an advanced stage in the development of a treatment and day centre in the grounds of the Derby Royal Infirmary, and it is very gratifying to see the acknowledgement by the hospital authority of their financial responsibility in this provision. Indeed, the Derby unit is to some extent a blueprint for other similar units now being planned for other

centres. Clatterbridge Hospital in the Wirral is to be the site of a new hospital school unit providing accommodation for up to 40 children on a day basis; there they will receive a full range of therapies and a formal education as well as nursery care and associated facilities, the revenue costs of these services being borne by the Regional Hospital Board and the Education Committee concerned. Thanet in Kent is to be another area served by a unit of this nature, funded again directly by the Society with the local support of the groups in the area. A local appeal is not being launched to meet the additional cost involved in the inclusion of a hydrotherapy pool.

In North-West London, in conjunction with the North-West London Group, another local/national centre is being built now to provide work and occupational facilities for about 25 adults whilst similar centres are being planned in Sheffield, Chingford, South Wales, Manchester, Watford, Blackburn, the Isle of Wight and elsewhere. Taking the long term view, the Society is currently planning a further 14 work centres of this type, and an additional 10 with local groups, which would bring the total number of work centres operated by the Society or local groups on a local basis to over 40. To support these centres many of which are to serve country areas where it is not possible by virtue of distance to develop centres which are operated solely on a day basis, the Society is faced with the task of operating hostels in conjunction with many of the new work centres.

Though educational facilities tend to feature less in the proposals for future development, two locally operated schools have extended their facilities during the year. Cheltenham are currently extending their St Vincent's School with a major expansion scheme which will not only increase the number of places very materially but will also provide a greatly improved range of facilities. Reading Education Committee and the local Reading & District Spastics Society have negotiated for special extensions at the Avenue School in the County Borough which will provide a special C.P. unit equipped with a range of therapy facilities, including a hydrotherapy pool. And in Bournemouth negotiations have proceeded for the development of additional facilities at the Poole centre which will provide more places and improved facilities all round.

However viewed in the field, this must be regarded as a successful year if success is to be measured in such material terms, the impetus of previous years maintained and every prospect that the years to follow will involve even greater expansion of local services. The more recent development plans envisage a programme of local development which would in seven years more than double the number of places available to spastic children and adults and the number of families receiving services from the Society in this form. Local groups feature prominently in this programme as the Report for 1965/66 will show.



(Photo: Courtesy Coventry Evening Telegraph)

At work in the garden at 'Penderells', the Coventry and District Group's Residential and Day Centre

Mobile Exhibition Unit

On Friday, May 21, 1965, the Society launched a new publicity and fund-raising medium—a Mobile Exhibition Unit.

Designed to tour England and Wales, the Unit has a three-fold purpose: to give the public a better understanding of the problems of spastics; to show the services provided by the Society with the money contributed by the public; to indicate ways in which the public can continue to help.

It was decided that the best way to achieve these objects was to tell our story mainly in pictures. The Unit uses nine panels to do this: (1) Statistics, i.e., Do you know, etc., etc.; (2) Map of the country showing where

The Exhibition Unit was officially opened by Stirling Moss, who said that hitherto he had no idea what spastics could do or the size of the problem. The Unit had in fact indoctrinated its first customer! Since then other customers have flocked to see the exhibition at carnivals, agricultural shows, many spas and seaside towns.

Interesting stories on the progress of the tour have come in. At the Suffolk Show the Unit representatives struck up a happy relationship with the Wellington Work Centre and the Ipswich Group, the final hour of the show being enlivened by an auction of Ipswich products by the leading Unit representa-



our schools and centres are located; (3) Problems faced by spastics and the Society: where the solution lies—in research; (4) The Society in action; (5) Ways in which the public can help; (6) Large scale drawing of a spastic child; (7) Jewellery show case; (8) Examples of handiwork by spastics; (9) Activities of local groups.

It was also agreed that incorporated in the Unit should be a daylight back film projector to show four four-minute films, linked by a commentary from David Jacobs. A generator, housed in the towing Land-Rover, operates the film projector.

Benefits to Groups

In formulating the policy for making best use of the exhibition, it was decided to use the Regional Officers' network to spread the message to Groups and to enlist their support when the Unit was operating in their areas. It was suggested that apart from indirect long-term benefits derived by Groups from the pre-visit advertising campaign provided by the Society, coupled with the impact made by the Unit itself, Groups would also be able to increase their direct revenue by concentrating fund-raising activities during the same period.

Sales of work in aid of local groups were conducted by the Unit at Southend and Brighton. At King's Lynn a local resident promised to send a donation to the Society; not only did he honour his pledge, in response to an invitation from the Society he also attended the inaugural meetings of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Spastics Society and promised active support.

Link with R.P.P.

A particularly happy event occurred at Eastbourne where the Regional Pools Promotions Mobile Display and the Society's Unit shared the same site. R.P.P. patrons were able to see just how their charity donations are spent.

In October the Exhibition Unit returns to London—after visiting every Region and making good sales of jewellery, the paper-back 'Every Eight Hours', and our magazine, SPASTICS NEWS.

Groups and Regions

ONE hundred and fifty is now the number of our Groups—an increase of nine on the previous year's figure. Six new Groups have come into being and have been affiliated.

Two Groups who started life with the British Council for the Welfare of Spastics have been added to our number—the Kidderminster and District Spastics Association and The Friends of Pond's Home—and the Northern Ireland Council for Orthopaedic Development (Inc.) has agreed terms with us.

The Woodlarks Camp Site Trust, had followed its sister body, the Woodlarks Workshop Trust in joining as an Association; about one-third of the handicapped persons catered for by these two Trusts are cerebrally palsied.

The steady annual rise in the overall income of Groups is attributable to something beyond the increase in their numbers. As their plans for Centres and services come to fruition, Groups are realising that they simply have to have more money and are tackling the problem of fund raising more vigorously and more efficiently than before. Higher incomes have been achieved with lower costs of collection—a very welcome trend in these days of rising prices.

The Regions and Groups Co-ordination Committee

The year has been one of preparation and of clearing the decks for the major tasks ahead—of establishing the right relationship between the Society and its Affiliated Groups and of ensuring that the latter recognised and achieve their proper aims.

The Model Constitution for Affiliated Groups has been drafted, agreed with the Charity Commission and the Inland Revenue and circulated to all Groups. It embodies everything that ten years and more of experience have shown to be necessary and it is intended as a comprehensive but not over-elaborate guide to good administration and to the efficient running of a Group. Its acceptance will become a condition of affiliation from now onwards and this will make smooth a new Group's path on to the Register of Charities and free it from Income Tax worries. Its adoption by Groups already affiliated is a matter of choice—but the advantages in accepting it cannot be over-stressed.

The position of the Regional Officer has been examined and his duties and responsibilities defined in a way which is intended not to limit him in his role as 'guide, phil-

sopher, and friend' to all in his Region but to give him and others the right lead in the interpretation of his work.

The Regional Advisory Committees are now being established and by the end of this year will be functioning in all but the London Region where boundaries have still to be decided. The first of the Annual Regional Conferences have also been held and their success is proving ample justification for their institution. They 'give value for money' in two ways—by providing opportunities to group members not only to hear good speakers on matters of general interest but also to meet in an informal way members from other Groups within the Region.

Meetings have been held with the Honorary Officers of the Regional Councils and with Honorary Officers from Groups to discuss the 'place of the Local Groups within the Society' and what was said at those meetings has provided much food for future thought.

The Regional Organisation

Regional Advisory Committees under the new dispensation have been established in several Regions and have already held their first meetings.

In the South Wales, North and North West Regions members have been elected but the Committees have not yet had the opportunity of meeting: Committees will shortly be elected in the East Anglia and Yorkshire Regions. The formation of a Committee in the London Region will be delayed until its boundaries have been settled.

It has been decided that the boundary between Yorkshire and the North Regions will follow the southern boundary of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board area, which includes the northern half of the North Riding of Yorkshire.

A senior Regional Officer has been appointed under the Chief Regional Officer, to 'co-ordinate, foster and support' the work of the Regional Officers in the three northern Regions—the North, Yorkshire and North West Regions. He is Mr. A. R. M. Edwards, C.B.E., and his offices will be in Harrogate.

Challenge of the Future

In the early days of the Society, local Groups sprang up spontaneously as the news of the formation of the National Spastics Society spread among parents up and down

England and Wales. The first three years of the N.S.S.'s life saw over 100 Groups formed and affiliated. Since then the growth of Groups has followed a slower and more deliberate course and the call to membership has been broadened to rally in support the widest range of help and helpers.

It is in this steady strengthening of local endeavour to reinforce the work already being done by existing Groups, that the answer to the future lies. More and more services must be provided if the various needs of spastics are to be met to any degree of completeness; the authorities must be persuaded to provide as much as possible, but, even so, a great burden of responsibility will remain with the Groups. In addition to the formal services, the personal services which Groups and their members are best capable of rendering to spastics—the warmth of friendship and the recognition of their dignity and worth as beings made by God in His likeness no less than their normal brethren, make calls on time and efforts beyond the ability of present strengths to meet. The pace is increasing and if Groups are to play their proper part in the development of the work of the Society as a whole, they must prepare themselves now for the task. More members must be found, not only to replace casualties, but also to enlarge the small band of unselfish, persevering and grossly overworked volunteers who are at the core of every Group. The burden of work must be shared out as widely as possible and recruits found to bring a fresh vision and a fresh impetus to Groups' efforts. Times change, and the answers of ten years ago are not necessarily the right ones today; the habit of self-criticism must be developed and the dangers of complacency clearly signposted. Much has yet to be done, and with the best possible will in the world, it will take a long time to do it; for many years yet, the remark 'we have met all the needs of all the spastics in our area' will remain, sadly, a confession of failure rather than a headline of success.

The spirit of partnership between Groups and the Society and between Groups themselves, and the recognition of the value and importance of each other's work must be fostered and encouraged if the Society is to muster the right forces to meet the challenges ahead. A chain is no stronger than its weakest link! We have all to see that the link our part forms in the chain of the Society's work is as unbreakable as the rest.

REGIONS As at 1 April 1965

- 1 NORTH
- 2 YORKSHIRE
- 3 NORTH WEST
- 4 EAST MIDLANDS
- 5 WEST MIDLANDS
- 6 SOUTH WALES
- 7 EAST ANGLIA
- 8 NORTHERN HOME COUNTRIES
- 9 WESSEX
- 10 WEST
- 11 LONDON
- 12 SOUTH EAST



Some Royal Occasions

(Right): H.R.H. Prince Philip, accompanied by the Chairman, at the official opening of the new Thomas Delarue School on June 9, 1964.

(Photo.: Courtesy of the Kent and Sussex Courier)

(Lower right): H.R.H. Princess Marina was presented with a bouquet by Dawn Bates when she opened the Lady Zia Wernher Centre at Luton on May 30, 1964

(Photo.: Courtesy Home Counties News Papers)

(Below): H.R.H. Princess Marina with the Chairman, the Director and the Professor of Paediatric Research on the occasion of her private visit to the Research Unit on July 9, 1964





(Left): Presentations on the occasion of H.R.H. Princess Marina's visit to the Croydon Centre on March 30, 1965

Left to right: Mrs. D. E. Wheeler, Dr. D. E. Wheeler, Miss J. Garwood and the Rt. Rev. J. T. Hughes, Bishop of Croydon

(Lower left): H.R.H. Princess Marina with Mr. V. King, the Principal, on the occasion of her visit to the Sherards Training Centre on March 9, 1965

(Below): H.R.H. Princess Marina, accompanied by the Warden, Mr. F. W. Bowyer, inspects the Pool on the occasion of her visit to Coombe Farm on March 30, 1965



Paediatric

Research Unit



THIS has been a year of consolidation but also of some major staff changes. We have been singularly fortunate in securing the services of Dr. John Fraser Roberts, F.R.S., who, on retiring from his appointment as the Director of the Medical Research Council's Unit of Clinical Genetics at Great Ormond Street, has become Geneticist to the Unit and Clinical Geneticist to the Hospital. Dr. Roberts has assumed charge of the important genetic survey which is being undertaken in the Region of the South-East Metropolitan Hospital Board. This constitutes a new development in enlisting the co-operation of hospital specialists, general practitioners and public health staff in an effort to find out exactly how many children in a known population are the victims of certain kinds of inherited abnormality. Accurate information of this sort is an absolutely necessary preliminary to the understanding of many different kinds of disease. Dr. Matteo Adinolfi has relinquished his appointment with the M.R.C.'s Haematology Unit at St. Mary's Hospital where he has been working with Professor Mollison, to become Senior Lecturer in Immunology.

Dr. Eva Alberman has been lent to the National Birthday Trust for one year to work with Dr. Neville Butler on the perinatal survey. Dr. Donald Mackenzie resigned his appointment as Research Medical Officer in the Cerebral Palsy Physical Assessment Centre and Dr. Peter Robson has been appointed to his post. The centre assessed 168 cases between April 1964-65. The data collected in this way is being statistically analysed, and a programme of work has now been adopted which is expected to throw light on the very early diagnosis of cerebral palsy by the measurement of variations in muscle tone. In this attempt comparisons are being made between a series of normal infants and those suspected of having cerebral palsy.

Dr. Spector and his group have studied protein synthesis in the brains of anoxic animals and detected severe abnormalities induced by oxygen lack. Dr. Seller has continued her studies on the mammalian placenta. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the University of London was awarded to both Dr. Spector and Dr. Seller for work in this Unit.

The work of the cytogenetics section, under Mr. John Hamerton, has greatly increased since not only has the study of certain specific abnormalities such as mongolism been extended but some basic research is now being undertaken using cell culture techniques and radioactive substances in the elucidation of chromosome structure and development. This work also links up with biochemical researches undertaken by Dr. Benson and his group on the formation of D.N.A., the primary genetic material. Dr. Benson was admitted an M.Sc. (Biochemistry) of London University. A new biochemist is being appointed as from October 1, 1965.

The basement and annexe at N. 45 Borough High Street has been very successfully converted to a photographic unit and at the same time laboratory space in Cameron House has been increased by the conversion of cloak-rooms on the 2nd floor. These changes were necessary in view of the increased demands on darkroom accommodation for autoradiography, electron microscopy, etc, and have provided laboratory space for Dr. Adinolfi, when he takes up his appointment as Immunologist in October 1965, together with his research assistant and technician.

H.R.H. Princess Marina visited the Unit in July 1964, when she talked to many members of the research staff and showed great interest in their work.

Among several visits to the Unit a notable one was that of the Paediatric Visiting Club which held a week-end of demonstrations and discussions in November.

A number of visits abroad have been made by members of the staff. Dr. M. Joseph was sent by Guy's Hospital to attend the International Symposium on the Heart and Circulation in the Newborn Infant, in Chicago. Miss Angell visited Institutes of Genetics in Sweden and Denmark in April 1965, and I visited centres for cerebral palsy in Italy and the Carlo Besta Institute of Neurology in Milan in February 1965.

We have had our usual number of visiting workers from many different countries during the year including Dr. John L. Wilkins, who is working here for a year on an M.R.C. grant, Mr. Chua Teck Seng from the University of Singapore and Mr. Thomas Butler from Vanderbilt University, Tennessee.

During the year some 50 scientific papers were published by the research staff.

Dr. Fraser Roberts and I presented a joint television programme on Human Genetics as part of the B.B.C. series 'Science of Man', and I was invited to lecture on chromosology at the Royal College of Physicians and also gave the Woodhull Discourse at the Royal Institution on 'Sex Chromosomes of Man and their Anomalies'.

My colleagues and I are greatly indebted to The Spastics Society for its generous support of the Unit in undertaking fundamental long term research into the nature of brain malfunction and abnormal development generally.

PAUL E. POLANI, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Medical Advisory Committee

THE Medical Advisory Committee has dealt with new problems in the past year as well as continuing to perform its regular functions of advising the Society on the many medical facets of both the day to day work of the Society and its long-term projects and plans.

Laymen who have difficulty in understanding the precise meaning of the term cerebral palsy may be relieved to know that the doctors do not find this easy either. The M.A.C. has spent much time in trying to evolve an accurate terminology, and, in the meantime, has formulated a Glossary of Terms used in cerebral palsy to help everyone understand each other. 'What's in a name' may be very important when it is realised that there are many groups of children and adults with handicaps closely akin to cerebral palsy. The Spastics Society has the know-how to help many of these children and their parents but not the financial and material resources, so the M.A.C. has the sometimes difficult task of deciding on medical grounds whether or not certain conditions can be called 'cerebral palsy'.

The M.A.C. has recommended the setting-

up of another assessment panel which should help sufferers in the north of England who find the journey to London tedious and tiring, and also reduce the time waiting for an appointment. More specialist doctors have been appointed to the Society's Schools and Centres; some of these will be concerned with the emotional difficulties which trouble many children but especially those with physical handicaps and learning difficulties.

Research is being helped in several ways by The Spastics Society, and the Medical Advisory Committee has the unenviable job of deciding which projects are most worthy of support. Rising prices are as much a part of the research worker's life as anyone's, and apparatus and salaries grow more costly each year. Researchers are more dependent on grants from outside sources as university funds are more and more taken up for providing teaching staff and accommodation for the increasing number of students. Progress in the difficult field of cerebral palsy research is painfully slow; more money would enable more projects to get under way.

The M.A.C. tries hard to make sure that no sufferer from cerebral palsy is denied the

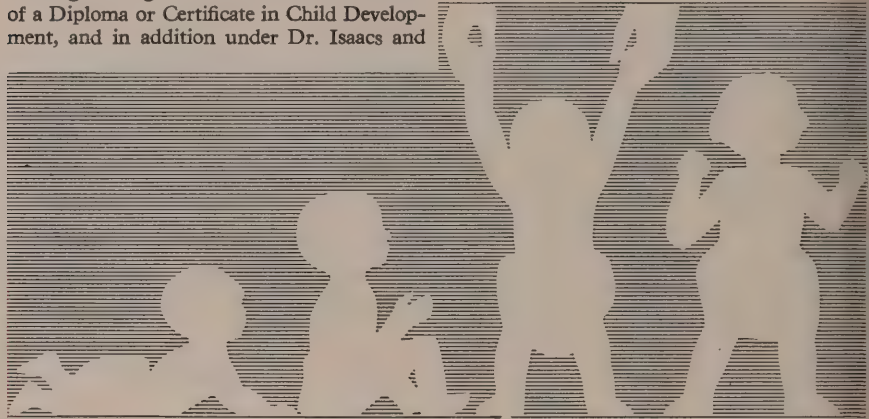
best care because his doctors do not know of the latest developments in diagnosis or management. Refresher courses on 'The Handicapped Child and His Family' have been held with the co-operation of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation for general practitioners and local authority doctors. Specialists are kept continuously informed by the journal 'Development Medicine & Child Neurology' and the 'Clinics in Developmental Medicine'. Conferences are held at which doctors can exchange research findings and clinical experiences, others involve bringing together professional groups which rarely have a chance to meet—doctors and educationists, psychologists and speech therapists, etc.

The Medical Advisory Committee also recommends travel grants so that research workers, medical administrators and medical teachers can broaden their knowledge or investigate promising developments overseas. Both science and cerebral palsy are international and the M.A.C. believes that knowledge should be freely interchanged for the benefit of spastics everywhere.

THE Department of Child Development in the University of London Institute of Education was established in 1933 under the late Dr. Susan Isaacs. Miss D. E. M. Gardner, the present Reader in Child Development, succeeded her as Head of the Department, in 1943. The Department has, during the last 32 years, played a leading role in nursery, infant and junior school education. Nearly 1,500 students have been given an advanced training leading in most cases to the award of a Diploma or Certificate in Child Development, and in addition under Dr. Isaacs and

the deaf and partially-hearing, and will be in the charge of Dr. D. M. C. Dale. This will be financed in part from student fees paid by the Department of Education and Science. Each course will take up to about 20 students in October, 1965.

From this brief account you will see that the Department embraces the whole range of physical and mental handicaps in children except for those of blindness and severe



Miss Gardner many research studies have been carried out. This year there are 80 full-time and two part-time students reading for the Diploma or Certificate in Child Development.

In 1950 a Diploma Course concerned with the training of teachers of educationally normal children was started under Dr. M. F. Cleugh. A second Diploma Course, started in 1953 under Dr. E. M. Oakeshott, deals with the training of teachers of maladjusted children. Each of these courses has about 25 students.

In 1949 the Institute set up a Child Study Centre (now called the Centre for Research in Human Development) under the direction of Dr. Colin Hindley and Mr. Terence Moore. Dr. Hindley and Mr. Moore have been undertaking a longitudinal study of the development of children born in the Borough of Holborn in 1951, 1952 and 1953. Four age cohorts, including in all about 140 children, have been studied from birth.

In 1964 a munificent grant by the Spastics Society of £600,000 made possible the establishment of a Professorial Chair of Child Development. It is my great privilege to be the first holder of this position, and I am deeply sensible of this honour, and of the opportunities and responsibilities it brings with it. Next October we begin two new courses for the advanced training of teachers in special education. The first course, which will lead to the award of a Diploma in the Education of Physically Handicapped Children, will be under the direction of Mr. James Lumsden, until recently H.M.I. for Special Education. With him will be Mr. Simon Haskell, until recently Senior Psychologist to The Spastics Society. The second course will be for the advanced training of teachers of

mental subnormality. The studies of handicapped children are made against a background of work in normal child development in addition to their more specialised studies. Much of the work of the Department has been concerned with the problems of teacher training, though during the last 30 years both students and staff have carried out a large number of research projects. However, it has always been exceedingly difficult to obtain financial support for research in the past, and this has greatly hampered the development of research throughout the whole of the social sciences in this country. The situation is now easing considerably, and it is our intention that in the future much more emphasis will be placed upon research in the Department, while not at all neglecting the problems of teaching. After all, the University is a place for teaching and research, and in a University Institute of Education both activities must be given due weight.

At the present time there are three research units attached to the Department. The first of these, the Centre for Research in Human Development, I have already mentioned. I do not need to say how important we regard the longitudinal study of normal, ordinary children as being, both for its own sake and to provide normative data for our investigations into the problems of handicapped children. The two other research groups are those which I brought with me when I came from the Medical Research Council to the University. They are the Child Welfare Project, and the Educational and Medical Survey on the Isle of Wight.

The Child Welfare Project, which is supported by a substantial grant over a five-year period by the American Association for the Aid of Crippled Children, is concerned with

Department of Child Development

the problems of children in residential care. So far we have been looking at four large residential institutions for children, two children's hospitals concerned primarily with the care of mentally handicapped children and chronic sick children, and two large residential homes run by the L.C.C. We are interested in the differing patterns of social organisation in these places, the kind of staff who are recruited and the training they receive, and the differing ways in which contrasting institutional environments affect the children who are placed in them. These problems are clearly relevant to the work being undertaken in The Spastics Society's residential schools and centres, and we hope in the future that we may be able to extend our investigations to cover other residential schools and institutions for both children and adults.

The Educational and Medical Survey on the Isle of Wight is sponsored by the Department of Education and Science, with substantial support from the Medical Research Council, the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children, the University of London, the National Foundation for Educational Research, and with generous and unstinting co-operation from the Health and Education

Authorities on the Isle of Wight itself. My colleagues who are directing the investigation with me are Dr. Michael Rutter of the Medical Research Council Social Psychiatry Research Unit and Dr. Kingsley Whitmore of the Department of Education and Science. The object of the enquiries is to obtain a detailed knowledge of the number of children with differing kinds of handicap: medical, educational and social, in the school population of the Isle of Wight. The field work for one survey has been completed; a second will be carried out this year. If, as seems likely, funds for the continuation of this study can be obtained, an evaluation of the medical and educational services to meet the needs of handicapped children in a total population of about 100,000 persons of all ages, will be made.

In addition to these research units, an increasing number of research students are being attracted to the Department to work under members of the staff. We have other plans for expansion, also, some of them directly concerned with the problems of physically handicapped children and their families.

You will see from this brief account of the work of the Department of Child Development that our aims are not coterminous with those of the Society or with the education of children with cerebral palsy. But the work of the Department is clearly *relevant* to those aims and it is our hope that in the Department we will be able both to learn from the work that is being done in The Spastics Society's schools and centres, and to contribute to it. I look forward, too, to welcoming an increasing number of teachers from those schools and centres on our courses.

It gives me great satisfaction that this Department, which combines the study of special education with that of child development, is set in an Institute of Education which is concerned with the development of normal as well as handicapped children. I firmly believe that the development of handicapped children can only be properly understood by those who have a knowledge of normal child development, and that we will learn more about how normal children develop through the study of those whose development is arrested or distorted in some way.

JACK TIZARD, M.A., B.LITT., Ph.D.

Educational Advisory Committee

AT the time of the amalgamation, the two societies responsible for the care of spastics were advised on education matters by a joint committee. Since amalgamation, the present Educational Advisory Committee has had to adjust itself to the new situation and gear itself to play an effective part in the work of the now united Society. Its new terms of reference lay down three positive functions: to consider the education and development of the cerebrally palsied, to make necessary recommendations to the Executive Committee and to advise on relevant research in this field. Its task is to review, compare and report on the extent to which the various types of education and training are developing the intellectual and physical abilities of the cerebrally palsied and promoting emotional stability and social competence. It is specifically charged to include within its purview those cerebrally palsied children who are at present excluded from school and those for whom at present suitable provision is not available or has not been provided. It will work in close association with the new Department of Child Development in the

London University and in co-operation with other committees of The Spastics Society and with any other body in the United Kingdom or overseas in whatever way may seem desirable.

During this year, the Committee has continued to establish its method of undertaking its overall tasks. Increased co-operation with the Medical Advisory Committee has been effected by cross-representation of membership, and by active consultation on mutual problems. It took part in the creation of the 'Glossary of Terms used in Cerebral Palsy', which has long been needed in the schools and in the Society's growing staff training programme. A joint Panel was formed to select this year's eight scholarships to be awarded under the Society's Study-Tour Scholarship Scheme.

This imaginative scheme, and we are grateful to the Scottish Council for the idea, aims to enable qualified personnel, including the Society's own staff, to investigate educational and medical programmes in the United Kingdom or in Europe, to make available knowledge of this kind to the advantage of the

Society's programmes and to improve communications between all the workers in the field of cerebral palsy.

The Committee feel that probably the most important factor of cohesion in the educational programme of the Society rests in the establishment of a sound programme of Educational Research. While much of this will be carried out by the new Department of Child Development, the Committee look forward to playing an effective part in fashioning and assisting such a programme. A Working Party is now engaged in formulating the principles on which this programme should be based if it is to lead to a better understanding of the psychological, educational, social and vocational development of cerebrally palsied persons.

The Committee continues to receive reports on educational projects, study groups and research studies, to advise staff responsible for these activities and to establish itself as a focus of educational knowledge and purpose for the continued improvement of opportunity for spastics in the broad field of education, training and development.

Christmas Card Sales

Spastics Cards Limited, which has been in existence now for three years, sold seven million Christmas cards in 1964. This target was achieved despite very real and increased competition from numerous other National charities. The total number of National charities now selling Christmas cards exceeds one hundred, which represents an increase of 25 per cent on 1963. It would appear, however, that The Spastics Society still leads the field of charities in the sales of exclusively designed Christmas cards. The target for 1965 is ten million cards sold, but with everyone's full co-operation, this could be increased to twelve million!

STAFF AND EQUIPMENT

After the initial settling-in period at our new premises at Iver, Bucks., the organisation was built up last year and eventually employed, at its peak, some 70 people in the offices and warehouse, devoted to the sole task of sending out Christmas cards. A very great proportion of the staff were part-time and only a handful of them had been previously engaged on this operation. A number of key personnel have been retained and will form the nucleus of the team who will deal with the 1965 programme. In both offices and warehouse, a certain amount of capital expenditure has been invested in the provision of equipment which will streamline the efficiency of the operation in the future.

SALES

Group sales were most encouraging in 1964 and represented over 20 per cent of the total cards sold. Sales to private individuals amounted to 50 per cent of the cards sold. It is hoped that Regional Pool Promotions' Supervisors and Agents will be selling the Society's cards this year. It is encouraging to see that, once again, Business Houses have supported our cause, and we hope that they will continue to do so when sending traditional greetings at Christmastide to their colleagues and associates.

COTTAGE INDUSTRY

The number of Christmas cards produced by Spastics themselves in their own homes and in workshops and centres throughout the country in 1964, increased to 1,250,000 from 759,000 cards produced in 1963, and it is hoped that this figure will rise to over



1,750,000 in 1965. The fact that such a large proportion of our total output is produced by Spastics themselves, is always emphasised in our publicity material and in our circular letters to various outlets, and we would like to put on record our appreciation of the many Spastic homeworkers who participate in the Christmas card programme.

POTENTIAL

The total Christmas card market in the United Kingdom rose from 629,000,000 in 1963 to a figure in excess of 655,000,000 in 1964. The sales of charity cards amount to only 7 per cent of this total, and it must remain the constant aim of charities to increase this percentage, as they have done in the United States of America, where the percentage of charity cards sold is 20 per cent of the total market.

PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING

Publicity and advertising play a major role in our efforts to increase our sales, and one aspect of this is the distribution of three million illustrated brochures. Future plans include the utilisation of the Society's new Exhibition Unit for the sale of cards and the distribution of illustrated brochures. The entire range of Christmas cards, calendars, gift tags and wrapping papers printed with the term, 'Printed by Spastics' or 'Purchased in Aid of Spastics', and the aim of educating the general public to an awareness of the Society's existence is thus achieved.

Spastics Cards Limited are already receiving orders for the very attractive 1965 range of Christmas cards, calendars, gift tags and wrapping paper. We earnestly hope that we will receive the utmost support from every one connected with The Spastics Society in the fact that they are available to every possible source by distributing the illustrated brochure. This is imperative in order to achieve our common aim, which is to benefit the Society's funds, so necessary for the implementation of the Society's work.



Buy Your 1966 CALENDARS

made by Adult Spastics of the NORTH SURREY GROUP

3s. 0d. each plus postage

Orders of 50 or over
2s. 6d. each

Orders of 200 or over
2s. 3d. each

The Calendars are gay and
colourful, cut into Snowflake
and Zinnia shapes with the
calendar at the centre

**A FUND-RAISER
FOR YOUR GROUP!**

Write to
North Surrey Group
The Spastics Society
Work Centre
13 Geneva Road
Kingston-on-Thames
Phone: Kingston 1750

32 Seater Coach
constructed to the order of

**COOMBE FARM
RESIDENTIAL
CENTRE**



Special Thirty-Two Seater Coach mounted on a Passenger Chassis. At the nearside easy entrance through a wide Sliding Door also acting as an Emergency Exit for occupied Chairs in conjunction with a Folding Ramp, stored in an easily accessible Locker below floor level.



Power-operated Tail-lift to raise two occupied Wheel Chairs to floor level with floor anchorage inside body. Safety belts supplied for all seats

FOR SPECIALISED BODIES
ON YOUR
OWN CHOICE OF CHASSIS—

FERRARIS
OF CRICKLEWOOD

214-218 CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY
LONDON N.W.2

Established 45 years

Sales Manager:
C. F. BERGAM

Telephones:
GLAdstone 2234-5-6-7

READ OUR STORY

"A fascinating story . . ."
B.M.J.

*"A moving and gripping
book . . ."*
B.B.C.

"EVERY 8 HOURS"

compiled by
RICHARD DIMBLEBY
(assisted by MARY HOBBS)

★ FOR GROUPS A MONEY RAISER

You can make 2s. 2d. every time you
sell a copy of "Every Eight Hours".
A good money-raiser for your funds
at meetings, bazaars, functions, etc.
To obtain this discount, you must
order 50 or more copies direct from:

THE LIBRARIAN
THE SPASTICS SOCIETY
12 PARK CRESCENT
LONDON W.1

HODDER & STOUGHTON 2/6

Single copies from leading bookshops

ORDER NOW!
Supplies are Limited



(Photo: Courtesy of The Surrey Comet)

David Jacobs tries a new Mount at the S.O.S.
Kart-Khana

Stars Organisa

Under the Chairmanship of Mr. Harry Secombe, C.B.E., the S.O.S. continued to flourish in 1964. The number of fund-raising events was increased to 12, although the net income dropped by £200. Once again the biggest money spinner was The Record Star Show, which was organised by David Jacobs and sponsored by the *Daily Express*. A great line-up of pop stars, headed by P. J. Proby, Tom Jones and Sandie Shaw, brought 14,000 fans to Wembley. Two performances were given with Alan Freeman, Don Moss and Lonnie Donegan compering the show, which was mounted on an enormous revolving stage. The show was produced by Johnnie Stewart, with the assistance of Stanley Dorfman.

The Annual Ball at Grosvenor House was attended by many top stars from show business and for the first time, the great room was lit entirely by candles. Stanley Baker and Lionel Bart won two Mini-Minors in the raffle and a record number of gifts were displayed on the tombola, which was once again arranged by Vera Lynn.

Two television shows were arranged by Leslie Grade, the new Honorary Treasurer, with A.T.V. These replaced 'Sunday Night at the Palladium', and many members gave their services.

A preview performance of 'Little Me', starring Bruce Forsyth and Avril Angers, attended by many stars, was a successful evening.

Harry Secombe captained a cricket XI who defeated the Mayor of Hastings XI on the County Ground at Hastings. The S.O.S. team included, Donald Houston, Corbet Woodall, John Slater, John Blythe, Peter Murray, Francis Matthews, Woolf Phillips and Peter Richardson, who plays for Kent and England, and somewhat raised the standard of the S.O.S. batting.

A bowling match at Acton raised further funds for the S.O.S., and the team



(Photo: Courtesy The Drapers' Record)

The Harrogate Concert. Left to right: Barney Colehan,
Cyril Stapleton, Eric Sykes, Vera Lynn, Alfred Marks
and Walter Rhodes

Betty and Jack Howarth at the Manchester Ball



on for Spastics

included Brian Rix, Elspet Gray, Sam Kydd, Jean Aubrey, George Moon, John Bonney, John Justin, Murray Kash and Richard Lyon.

A stage show at The Odeon, Lewisham, was arranged with the help of The Eltham Round Table. A great show was given by Roy Castle, Val Doonican, Dianna Dors, Adam Faith, David Jacobs, Desmond Lane, Matt Monro and Harry Secombe. Ron Goodwin and Cyril Stapleton provided the orchestra.

The Annual General Meeting was held at The Dorchester Hotel on November 8, and the President, The Countess of Westmorland, took the Chair.

The following new members elected during the year were: Patricia Jessel, Pierre Picton, Thorley Walters, Frank Nesbitt, Susan Hampshire, Johnnie Stewart, Johnny Briggs, Dick Emery, Don Moss, June Bronhill, Brenda Lee, and Leslie Crowther.

The Colwall Court Management Committee, under its Chairman, Miss Hy Hazell, continued to provide holidays during the summer months for children up to 16 years of age. During the winter months The Spastics Society organised a Houseparent Course, three Assessment Courses, a Family Weekend Course and an Initiative Holiday. The latter was the first Initiative Course to be organised indoors, previous ones having been held under canvas. During the year the 36 Corps Engineer Regiment completed work on the cliff slope making the beach more accessible to guests at Colwall Court. An official opening ceremony was held on July 26, 1964.

Wakes Hall was officially opened by the President of the S.O.S. and the Chairman, Mr. Harry Secombe, on July 12, 1964. The first residents were admitted during April 1964, and the total places had been filled by the end of the year.

A workshop has been opened and contract work has been obtained from local Essex organisations.



Jean Aubrey about to push over a 3½-cwt. pile of pennies (£120) at the 'Morning Star', New Bradwell, Buckingham

Peter Murray, Roy Castle and Leslie Crowther at the Kart-Khana

(Photo: Courtesy of The Surrey Comet)



Brian Rix at this year's Christmas Card Shop

ELLERSLIE COURT HOLIDAY HOME FOR SPASTICS

A poor summer indeed for holidays, But you can make up for it by an off-season visit to Ellerslie Court Holiday Home, Southport.

Close to Southport's famous Lord Street with its shops for all tastes, Parks and Entertainments, this home has everything for rest and recreation at any time of the year for young and old. Ramp and storage for wheelchairs, Lift, Hot and Cold in all bedrooms. Central heating. Laundry facilities.



Family Parties including able bodied brothers and sisters are encouraged, but mobile Adult Spastics unaccompanied catered for.

S.R.N. on staff

Two spacious lounges both equipped with television. Lions Den specially equipped for children.

Miss H. M. Styles (Manageress)
Ellerslie Court
38 Westcliffe Road, SOUTHPORT

OR

For Details Please Contact:

The Holiday Organiser
The Spastics Society
12 Park Crescent, London, W.1

OR

Your local Group Secretary
or
Area Welfare Officer

OVALTINE



Better sleep on it!



EMPLOYMENT NEWS

DUDLEY ROLLO from Hythe, has been working in his father's business since leaving school.

SUSAN SCASE from Spalding, has taken a clerical job in a local office whilst awaiting a vacancy at Sherrards.

MARGARET STRONACH from Selby, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre has commenced a trial period of employment as a receptionist and switchboard operator for the Yorkshire Dyeware Co.

JEAN STUBBS, who is a member of the Sunderland Group, is now working in the sewing room of the Luxdon Laundry.

KEITH THOMPSON from Ryhope, is now employed by Messrs. Binns, Ltd.

SYLVIA WILBY from Norwich, who was a member of the 1965 Assessment Course Cruise, is now working in a local drapery firm.

STEPHEN YATES from Weymouth, who trained at Messrs. Joseph Lucas, Ltd., Birmingham, is now employed as a trainee machine operator by the Concord Engineering Co. Ltd.

MARRIAGES

In May—

BETTY BAKER to **GEORGE BRYANT**.

Recently—

BRENDA BROOK to **GEOFFREY BLAND**.

The Spastics Society Bursaries for Study Tours

Applications are invited from persons suitably qualified, who are professionally concerned with the diagnosis, treatment and management of Cerebral Palsy and in the education and welfare of the cerebrally palsied, for bursaries to enable them to make study tours.

The bursaries will be of two kinds: £100 to enable study tours of 4 weeks in the United Kingdom; and £150 to enable study tours of 4-6 weeks in Europe.

Application Forms may be obtained from:

The Schools and Centres Secretary
(Ref. SS 348)

The Spastics Society,
12 Park Crescent,
London, W.1.

The bursaries are to be made available annually. Applications for 1966 bursaries should be returned by 30th November, 1965.

CHRISTINE BUDGE from Portsmouth, is doing domestic work at St. Mary's Hospital.

CAROL COUNDLEY from Rainham, Essex, is employed by a local firm. Her work consists of packing gramophone records.

CAROL CREEDY from Greenford, is working in the mailing section of the Society's Headquarter's in London.

JOYCE ELLIOTT from Liverpool, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre, has commenced work in the typing pool of the Claims Department of the Inland Revenue.

JOANNA FARRELL from Northampton, is working in a local radio and cycle shop. Her duties consist of entering payments in ledgers.

PETER FLANAGAN from Keighley, now has a job near his home.

DAPHNE FIELDS from Holt, is working as a general hand in the Holt Steam Laundry.

SUSAN GAMBRELL from Scunthorpe, has a job in South Croydon whilst awaiting a vacancy at Sherrards.

KIERON HOUGHTON from Widnes, is making electrical switch-gear for a local firm.

SHAREN JONES from London, has changed her job and is now employed by K. H. R. Financings Ltd.

CAROL LLOYD from Kirkby, is doing hand sewing for the Shoreline International Co. Ltd.

STEPHEN NODES from Cambridge, is employed as a telegraph messenger by British Rail.

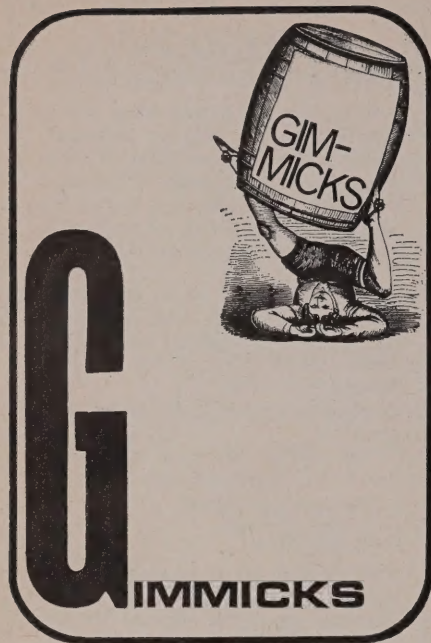
JEAN PAUL from Stepney, is employed as a telephone cleaner by the Phonotas Co. Ltd., of Stratford.

STEPHEN RIGLER from Boscombe, is employed by the Bournemouth Borough Council as a gardener in their Parks & Gardens Department.

BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER●●●●●

OCTOBER

1st	Stillington Cricket Club, Stillington, York	W. Smith
4th	Comrades Club, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea
5th	Camberley Club, London Road, Camberley, Surrey	J. Gardner & J. Rea
5th	Rawdon Cons. Club, Leeds Road, Rawdon, nr. Leeds	K. Kennerley
6th	Cons. Club, The Broadway, Sheerness, Kent	J. Gardner & J. Rea
6th	Birstall I.D.L. Club, High Street, Birstall, nr. Leeds	K. Kennerley
7th	British Legion, Farady Road, Slough, Bucks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea
7th	Miners Welfare, Whinney Lane, New Ollerton, Notts.	K. Kennerley
7th	Town Club, Star Street, Ryde, Isle-of-Wight	F. Davis
8th	Cons. Club, Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex	J. Gardner & J. Rea
8th	Sway Workmen's Club, Sway, Lymington, Hants.	F. Davis
11th	Clayton Workmen's Club, Dargai Street, Clayton, Manchester	J. Gardner & J. Rea
11th	Highway Cons., 652 Hertford Road, Enfield, Middlesex	F. Davis
12th	Dormans Works Club, Dormantown, Redcar, Yorks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea
12th	Fleckney Workmen's Club, Orchard Street, Fleckney, Leicester	F. Davis
13th	Cons. Club, Church Street, Hartlepool, Co. Durham	J. Gardner & J. Rea
13th	Bloxwich Memorial Club, Harrison Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, Staffs.	F. Davis
14th	Redcar Unionist Club, Dene Grove, Redcar, Yorks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea
14th	Rover Sports Club, Meteor Works, Solihull, Warwicks.	F. Davis
15th	Dunlop Works Sports Club, Pannal, Harrogate, Yorks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea
15th	Salisbury Club, Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.	F. Davis
18th	Central Cons. Club, Church Street, Preston, Lancs.	J. Rea
19th	Woodheys Club, Washway Road, Sale, Cheshire	J. Rea
19th	Low Mill Lane Social Club, Low Mill Lane, Keighley, Yorks.	K. Kennerley
20th	Crewe Mechanics Club, Prince Albert Street, Crewe	J. Rea
20th	Calverley Cons., Victoria Street, Calverley, Pudsey, Yorks.	K. Kennerley
21st	Grimesthorpe Social Club, Grimesthorpe Road, Sheffield	J. Rea
22nd	Ross Group Sports Club, Weelsby Road, Grimsby, Lincs.	J. Rea
26th	Old Trafford Cons., Seymour Grove, Old Trafford, Manchester	J. Gardner & J. Rea
27th	Woodcutters Social Club, Garston, Liverpool	J. Gardner & J. Rea
28th	West End Workmen's Club, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea
29th	Borough Club, Harrison Road, Halifax, Yorks.	J. Gardner & J. Rea



Mr. Hart, the author of 'A Spastic Wins Through' is seen here holding an invention—a Dreyfus-Hartsocker—thought out and designed jointly by Mrs. Charles Dreyfus and himself. Mr. Hart, who is now 65 and who has retired from the post of Law Correspondent to the Times, cannot now reach down to put his socks on. Thanks, how-

ever, to this hoop covered with denim material and some sewn on sock suspenders he can now manage.

An alternative made from transparent cellulose sheet and edge by adhesive tape can also be useful though the former is easier to manipulate.

LEATHER versus COMPOSITE MATERIALS

Constant wear and constant repair made our Sherrards Training Centre improve on their spastics' footwear. Mr. R. C. Carter, the Warden, writes: 'For some time we were concerned with the problem of the high cost of shoe repairs borne by certain of our trainees, particularly many of those with walking handicaps, caused through scraping, shuffling or even stubbing their toes.

'A member of our Management Committee suggested that we should try a plastic material for longer life. We wrote to The Boot and Shoe and Allied Trades Research Association in Northamptonshire who gave us information on the range of materials available complete with some small off-cut samples, plus data on the cements required for fixing.

'We chose for our experiment Material Reference 10—resin rubber which can be stuck with any one of the following cements: Unigrip 6090 or 6060; Evostick 5390; Crispin J3/26N; Plus Bond; Plus 16/16; Dunlop S 708; Larkhill 11/60 and most Neoprene Cements. The boot must be in reasonable condition and the surface prepared with a wire brush or scour.

'Our first pair repaired by this method were worn for the first time on January 19, 1965, and have been in daily use since, with no apparent signs of wear after six months; previously this trainee was sending his footwear for repair every three/four weeks.

'We have been watching closely during this period for any signs of foot perspiration, which could be another handicap in using these materials; another drawback could be slipping on certain floors or surfaces.

'You will appreciate that the full co-operation of the local boot and shoe repairer is desirable. In our particular instance, the proprietor of the small firm we deal with has been a supporter of the Society and in particular Sherrards for some years.

'The approximate cost to us for complete sole and heel is 16s. 6d. and we allow seven days for delivery.

'I trust that you will find this information useful and that you will point out that it will only benefit certain individuals, not everybody.'

Again for those who cannot reach to tie up their shoes but who can use a long-handled shoe horn—the Expanding Shoelace—for black white or brown shoes. It may be necessary when fitting the expanding shoelaces to stick the tongue of the shoe on one side. 6s. per dozen post free from The Expanding Shoe Lace Co. Ltd., Nelson, Lancs.

GOOD SHOES DESERVE GOOD LACES ' KUMFEE ' E-X-P-A-N-D-I-N-G SHOE LACES

SHOES SLIP ON AND OFF LIKE SLIPPERS
Once fixed they require NO RELACING or RETYING
Suitable for Ladies' Gent's and Children's Shoes

No Unsightly
Overhanging Tags

Expand with the
Movement of
the Foot

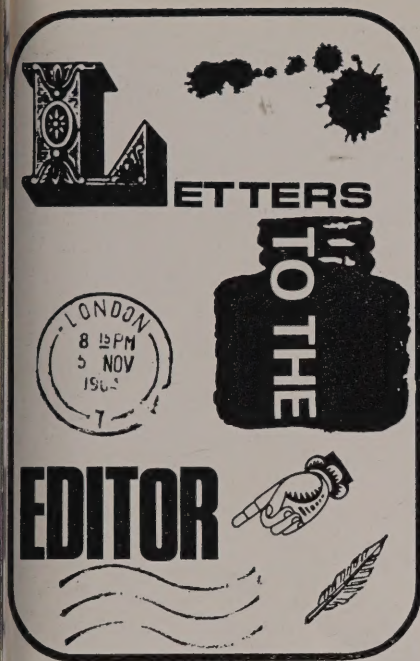
Shoes Fit Snugly to
the Feet under
all Conditions

6d.
per pair



Always
Look Neat

6d. will keep you in foot comfort for at least a year. Worn and recommended by medical men—prevent undue blood pressure.
"Kumfees will keep the people of Britain right on their feet"



WRITING TO A STANDARD

Dear Editor,

I note with interest and slight indignation the comments of Miss Pamela Phillips on the letter page of the July issue of the SPASTICS NEWS. I would have said that this periodical was very important indeed to spastics, because it is the only paper in which they can air their views, and get paid for doing so! Naturally the standard must be very high.

This standard is not achieved by just sitting down at a typewriter and typing out a few hundred words. I myself turned out stuff of all kinds for three years before I got anything past the waste-paper basket, and even now my long-suffering typist sometimes has to bash out a piece three times before it is satisfactory. Talent, if it is there at all, must be fertilised by hard work, which I might add, is very rewarding. Also, one must take heed of any expert advice which may be available, and one must be able to take the initial discouragement of rejections.

'THE DAFFODIL'.

Winter and Spring Holidays

The Holiday Bungalow of the Shrewsbury Group, at PRESTATYN, is available now for bookings from all Groups up to and including May, 1966. Applications from outside Shropshire should be recommended or endorsed by the local Group. The bungalow is rent-free. Enquiries to Mr. D. C. Gardner, 'Causbay', 12 Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury.

Dear Editor,

After you published my wife's letter seeking a tricycle for my son Terry (August issue), we were amazed by the many letters containing advice and ingenious methods which could be used to help.

Mr. Terry Moreton, of 60 Douglas Street, Derby, has a leaflet describing a method for converting a bicycle to a tricycle.

Another letter suggested using stabilisers on a two-wheel. The Senior Assistant School Medical Officer at Sunderland wrote to say that the head teacher at her Special School had a tricycle in good condition which had been used by a 14-year-old spastic girl.

We sincerely hope that this information will help you to help others in circumstances similar to our own.

Terry has been presented with a tricycle by the Oldham and District Spastics Group and is now a very happy boy.

J. FREEBREY,
Warrington, Lancs.

MORE NEWS FROM PONDS

Dear Editor,

During the last few months some people have been taking their G.C.E. and I am happy to say that two people have passed with excellent marks and I would like to add my congratulations.

I don't know whether I told you or not, but Ponds recently started a scheme by which every two years a party of the family can have the chance to go abroad. The first of the trips took seven of the family to Switzerland. It was very successful. This year it was the turn of twelve more lucky people to go to Sweden. In my next letter I hope to tell you a bit more about the Swedish Holiday.

LINTON EDWARDS.

MARRIED QUARTERS

Dear Editor,

Would it not be possible for the Society to consider providing a group of units for married couples who are both handicapped and have a child, or children? It is quite important for families to remain united. Such units, with common rooms for dining and occupational, would be of great benefit to handicapped persons and their families.

Mrs. P. J. BANE (Neé Hamlin),
Roughton, Norfolk.

EXPERT HOME KNITTING

Miss Elsie Harris, of 9 Cornwall Street, Hereford, makes very good plain knitted garments on her knitting machine, charging 1s. an ounce for the work. Miss Harris's machine takes only 3- and 4-ply wools, i.e., not double knitting. Write to her for wool patterns and have your Christmas presents made in good time.

PEN FRIENDS WANTED FOR:

Miss C. L. Barnett,
1 Burford Avenue,
Salisbury, Wilts.

Interests: pop records, television plays, reading, church. Wants a man pen-friend, similar interests, age 27-40.

Robert Smith,
6184 Duncan Street,
Halifax,
Nova Scotia, Canada.

Aged 12, spastic himself, wants to write to another boy same age.

MOBILE EXHIBITION UNIT●●●●●●●●●●

ITINERARY—OCTOBER, 1965

Day	Date	Place	Site
Fri./Sat.	1/2	High Wycombe	Frogmoor
Monday	4	Newbury	Market Place
Wednesday	6	Oxford	The Square, Cowley Centre
Fri./Sat.	8/9	Shrewsbury	The Square
Mon./Tues.	11/12	Stoke-on-Trent	Hanley Market Square
Thursday	14	Dudley	Junction King Street and Oakeywell Street
Saturday	16	Coventry	Rear of Hotel Leofric
Mon./Tues.	18/19	West Bromwich	Town Centre Car Park
Thursday	21	Derby	Derwent Street
Saturday	23	Nottingham	Ice Stadium Car Park
Monday	25	Loughborough	Corner of Wards End and New Street
Wed./Thurs./Fri. Sat./Sun.	27/28/29/ 30/31	Scunthorpe	Corner of High Street and Manley Street

